



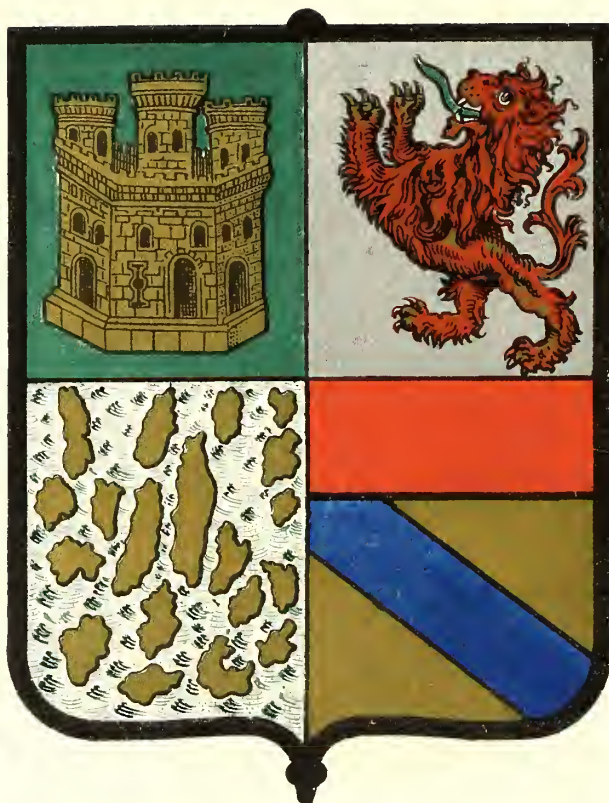


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CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

HIS OWN BOOK OF PRIVILEGES

1502



ARMS OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

ACCORDING TO THE LETTERS PATENT GRANTED BY
THEIR CATHOLIC MAJESTIES 20 MAY 1493

Christopher Columbus

HIS OWN BOOK OF PRIVILEGES

1502

PHOTOGRAPHIC FACSIMILE OF THE MANUSCRIPT IN THE ARCHIVES

OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE IN PARIS, NOW FOR THE FIRST

TIME PUBLISHED, WITH EXPANDED TEXT

TRANSLATION INTO ENGLISH

AND AN

HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION

THE TRANSLITERATION AND TRANSLATION BY GEORGE F. BARWICK
B.A. OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM

THE INTRODUCTION BY
HENRY HARRISSE

THE WHOLE COMPILED AND EDITED WITH PREFACE BY

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Reproduced in facsimile with transliteration and translation.

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Preface.



SOME years ago, in the interchange of civilities and compliments touching rare manuscripts, I had an opportunity of asking M. Girard de Rialle, the learned Director of the Archives des Affaires Etrangères, Paris, to let me see the most precious document in his keeping. Replying that the most precious object in the Archives was not readily accessible to his assistants, he left me, returning in a few minutes with a small folio volume, which on opening I found to my delight and surprise to be Christopher Columbus's own Book of Patents, Privileges and Concessions granted to him by Ferdinand and Isabella, a manuscript of exquisite beauty and in an almost perfect state of preservation.

Anticipating the great pleasure students would feel in perusing the text of the superior of the two existing transcripts of the Codex in the very form in which Columbus took so much pains to preserve it, I conceived, after many months' careful consideration, the plan of making the present companion volume to my series of Facsimiles of Manuscripts in European Archives relating to America. That plan involved the separate steps of photographic reproduction, transliteration and translation, with the addition of some autograph letters of Columbus, and an Historical Introduction which should bring Columbian bibliographical and historical information concerning this cartulary down to the present time.

My application to the French Government for permission to photograph the whole volume was transmitted through Mr. Whitelaw Reid, the American Minister, with

a cordial letter of commendation, and was supported by Mr. Henry Vignaud, the Secretary of Legation, himself a zealous and enlightened antiquary. It was known that I had had considerable experience in making photographic facsimiles of documents, and the Director of the Archives became much interested in my project. Both he and M. Ribot, the then Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, heartily recommended it to the Commission des Archives Diplomatiques, a board of control consisting of a President, three Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, and about twenty-five members. In due time my request was granted on the general grounds that it was prudent to let the Codex be reproduced in facsimile by some absolutely permanent process, and that the multiplication and distribution of copies would tend to the better preservation of this original text, which in certain respects differs from that of the Genoa Codex.

I was permitted to erect a studio in the garden of the Foreign Office for the purpose of making my photographs, and every facility, under most liberal limitations, was extended to me and to the operators by the officials and attendants of the Archival Department.

For each separate part of my plan I have been so fortunate as to secure the cordial assistance and co-operation of the best experts, while my own experience in printing was of material use to me in the arrangement of type and in interleaving the manuscript so that all facing pages, whatever their quantity of matter (cf. pp. 106 and 166), should have the corresponding amount of transliteration and translation.

In the transliteration the contractions have been expanded and a few stops have been introduced, but these, with the usual difference in the use of capital letters, are the only alterations that have been made. Wherever it has been found necessary to emend the text, the reading suggested is added in a bracket. Many Latin phrases in the Bull of Alexander vi. are faulty in spelling, and it has been thought better not to overload the transliteration with bracketed words, but to give at the foot of each of these six pages a copy of the text from the Bullarium. I do not

know whether the Bull in the other codices, if made by other scribes, was more or less accurate than this.

In the translation every effort has been made to give to each word its due force, and, by adopting a strictly literal rendering, to avoid warping the sense. The following illustrative points may be specially mentioned.

(i.) “Privilegio rodado” (pp. 25, 57): this is not, Mr. Barwick thinks, to be found in any Spanish-English dictionary, which no doubt accounts for its previous translation as “a privilege done up in a roll”; it is here rendered “a privilege with the circle of signatures,” and the circle is really a round robin having the King’s signature in the centre. The word “rodado” (*lit.* “wheeled”) admirably expresses the appearance which such a circle presents.

(ii.) In pp. 74, 85, etc., several measures of capacity are mentioned; they are probably Castilian, but as such measures varied very considerably, according to the province in which they were used, it has been thought advisable to retain them in the translation, and to mention here that the equivalents of the Castilian or standard measures at that time were approximately: Azumbre = 3 quarts; Fanega = $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushels; Cahiz = 12 fanegas = 18 bushels.

(iii.) A passage in the Letter of Columbus to the Nurse (p. 246), “Sy yo robara las Yndias o tierra que jaz fase ellas, de que agora es la fabla, del altar de Sant Pedro, y las diera alos moros,” has hitherto been regarded as obscure. But it has apparently escaped notice that “jaz” is simply an old form of “yaz” (= yace), while there can be no doubt that, as already suggested by Mr. Major, “fase” = *fasia* (= *hacia*). With this reading the passage makes both good Spanish and good sense, and its punctuation becomes intelligible.

The ink used in the manuscript is generally well preserved, but where the writing is very heavy in the initial letters and opening words of some of the documents, and occasionally in the closer writing and foliation, it is partly perished, leaving a bronzed or metallic appearance. Instances in which this has occurred are shown in the broken lines in the facsimile, see pages 107,

111, 112, 148, 152, 155, etc. In other places there are evidences of the use of a drying powder, which still adheres to the ink.

The rubrications or lines and flourishes at the foot of every page to the end of the Privileges (p. 212) are not mere meaningless ornaments, but the *rubricas*, or personal and peculiar flourishes of the scriveners or notaries, giving to every page thus marked the utmost validity. It will be noticed that neither these rubricas nor any authenticating certificates appear on the subsequent documents.

To the manuscript volume I have ventured to add three autograph letters of Columbus, and the Decree of the Republic of Genoa in 1670 heretofore unpublished, all relating to the transmission of the precious documents to Genoa and their future preservation. It seems to me that there is no ambiguity in these letters. I quote for ready reference :—

Columbus to Oderigo. 21 March, 1502 (p. 268).

“I have given the book of my writings to Messer Francesco di Rivarola, in order that he may send it to you, with another transcript of letters missive. . . . Another similar one shall be finished and sent to you in the same manner, and by the same Messer Francesco; you will find a new writing in it.”

Columbus to the Bank of St. George. 2 April, 1502 (p. 271). “I have sent him [Oderigo] the transcript of my privileges and letters.”

Columbus to Oderigo. 27 Dec., 1504 (p. 272). “When I set out upon the voyage from which I have just arrived . . . I left with Francesco di Rivarola a book of transcripts of letters and another of my privileges in a bag of coloured cordovan, with a silver lock, and two letters for the Office of Saint George. . . . I left another book of my privileges, like the abovesaid, at Cadiz with Franco Catanio . . . in order that he might forward it to you in like manner.”

My own belief is that the notaries put the vellums containing the Patents and Privileges together in the usual form, making them into one “book,” and then they put the other letters and writings together to form another “book,” and that these two books, in notarial style, but unbound, were placed in the bag for transmission to Genoa.

Perhaps a careful description of the present appearance of the Paris Codex will be my best argument as to the absence of any antique binding, and at the same time these particulars may have other interest. The volume, now bound in green morocco stamped with the arms

of the Second Republic, consists of thirty-eight skins of vellum carefully folded into seventy-six numbered leaves. The first leaf is blank, the second is the notarial title-page (p. 5), the third is the Coat of Arms (p. 7), the fourth to the fifty-third leaves (pp. 10 to 209) comprise the manuscript with the foliation I to L. There is no original foliation LI and LII, and the Book of Patents, Privileges, etc., ends on the back of folio LIII, *i.e.* on the fifty-fourth leaf (p. 213). Leaves fifty-five to sixty-three are blank, with the exception of their foliation LIII to LXII. The sixty-fourth leaf is folio LXIII, on which begin the Letters missive and other writings (p. 218), continuing to the seventy-fourth leaf, which has the folio number LXXIII. There is no folio LXXIV. The seventy-fifth leaf has the folio number LXXV, and on the reverse of this leaf the Codex ends (p. 265). The seventy-sixth leaf, which is the last original vellum in the volume, has the folio number LXXVI. It should be noted that the blank membranes are between the Book of Privileges and the Book of Letters, at the division mentioned by Columbus.

The manuscript itself is complete and consecutive, notwithstanding the irregularities and omissions in the foliation. Each sheet of vellum is carefully folded so that it becomes two leaves, and these folio sheets are sewn sometimes singly as two leaves and sometimes with one sheet inset, so making four leaves. None of the membranes are cut in the back margins, and there are no single leaves on guards or otherwise, and hence every skin is sewn through its own fold. The vellums were originally intended to be cut to a uniform size, but in a very few cases some are a little short or irregular in the bottom margin. With the careful folding all the top and fore edges are very even, but they have never been cut since being folded, nor have they ever been gilt.

There are some small holes, at irregular distances from the back in the inner margin, cut clean and sharp like worm-holes, but as book-worms love not vellums these may have been made by other insects that are enemies to vellum books. There are no holes made by a needle or other form of pricking which indicate a previous stitching

or binding, and hence one must either assume that the sewing of the present binding was done with such unexampled carefulness as to exactly utilize all old sewing holes or else that this binding, which was done between 1848 and 1852, is the first that was ever put on the Paris Codex.

At the end of the Genoa Codex is added a statement to the effect that four transcripts were made (see Introduction, p. xxxix), but there is nothing to indicate when or by whom. It was probably between March 22 and May 8-10, 1502. The transcript on paper taken by Carvajal to the Indies early in 1502 and that on parchment deposited in the Monastery of Santa Maria de las Cuevas are both lost. The remaining two are the Paris and Genoa Codices.

Adverting to the above quotations, Columbus, March 21, in the confident expectation of being able to get one of the transcripts finished ready for transmission that day with his letter, writes to Oderigo that he is forwarding it, and that *another shall be sent*. He failed, however, to get this transcript from the notaries until the next day, March 22, as appears by the date of the notarial certificate on page 213. This great haste may perhaps partly explain the errors in the foliation of the Paris Codex.

In the meantime the promised *other* copy was finished. The certificate on page 213 is the same in both codices, and both bear the same date, March 22.

The "new writing" may be the letter from the King and Queen dated at Valencia de la Torre, March 14, 1502, which Columbus received at the "very time of his departure" and caused to be inserted at the end of his Book of Privileges, so that the transcript is certified only a week later than the date of the original letter. He marks his sense of the importance of this "new writing," not only by mentioning it in his letters to Oderigo, but also by himself marking on one of the transcripts (that now in Paris), in red ink, the hand pointing to a particular passage.

Instead of giving the two copies to Rivarola for transmission as intended March 21, he gave him only one, in the bag with the silver lock, and two letters for the Office of Saint George, and there could have been no time

for binding, as he writes on April 2 that it had been sent. The other he retained about a fortnight in Seville and took with him to Cadiz, where, before his departure for the Indies, he gave it to Catanio, also for transmission to Oderigo (letter of Dec. 27, 1504). It is possible that in this broken interval of less than seven weeks the manuscript may have been bound, a theory in accordance with that of eminent Genoa antiquaries, who believe their volume was bound before it was transmitted by Columbus, and that it is now in the original Spanish binding of 1502. The alternative, and perhaps the probability, is that the interval may have been occupied in executing the table of contents, the marginal précis, and the ornamental initials and borders of that transcript, and that the volume may have been bound by Oderico on the occasion of the presentation of the cartularies to the Republic in 1670. That binding will undoubtedly be technically described in the "Raccolta di Documenti e Studi" now being issued, and as, according to the foliation in the table of contents, some blank leaves between the "Book of Privileges" and the "Book of Letters" are missing, and as the subsequent foliation appears to have been tampered with, some particulars on these points will surely be included. The volume easily enters the cordovan bag (p. xvi).

It is presumed that Columbus, March 21, had already obtained, for the two transcripts, when completed, bags of coloured cordovan with silver locks, as he says "another similar one [transcript] *shall be sent in the same manner*," and that these bags were for the preservation of the "books" of privileges and "books" of letters and were in lieu of substantial bindings. Probably the bag that originally covered the transcript now designated as the Paris Codex was never forwarded from Italy, or else one bag may have been lost at the time of the respective bindings, whether in Spain, Italy, or France.

My projected reproduction in facsimile of the Paris Codex naturally suggested to the Italians the reproduction of their own Codex. The City of Genoa has this year made a limited number of facsimiles of it by phototype, but without any transliteration, translation or introduction,

for presentation to certain dignitaries and to those Governments whose men-of-war participated in the naval functions and manœuvres in Genoese waters on the occasion of the Columbian celebration there in 1892.

It may be mentioned that the Royal Italian Columbian Commission announces that a transliteration and translation into Italian of the Genoa Codex (but without photographic facsimile) will appear in the "Raccolta di Documenti e Studi," Part II., with an Introduction by the learned antiquaries Professor Luigi Tommaso Belgrano and the Marquis Marcello Staglieno. The expressed opinion of the Marquis Staglieno and Signor Angelo Boscassi, the Director of the Archives at Genoa, is that the Genoa transcript is much less perfect than the one taken to Paris by order of Napoleon I. and which is now preserved in the French capital. This invites the following very superficial comparison. The Paris Codex contains an additional transcript of the Articles of April, 1492, page 218, on which Columbus bases his claims and arguments, pages 222-245, while its text of the Letter to the Nurse is more extended, as mentioned in Mr. Harrisse's Introduction. The Genoa volume contains the table of contents inserted before the Codex, the marginal précis, and the statement already referred to. The fuller text of the Paris Codex is shown by my facsimile. The Genoa Codex is in another hand, more neatly and legibly written, with beautiful arabesque ornaments by pen and by brush, and many of its initial letters are artistically illuminated.

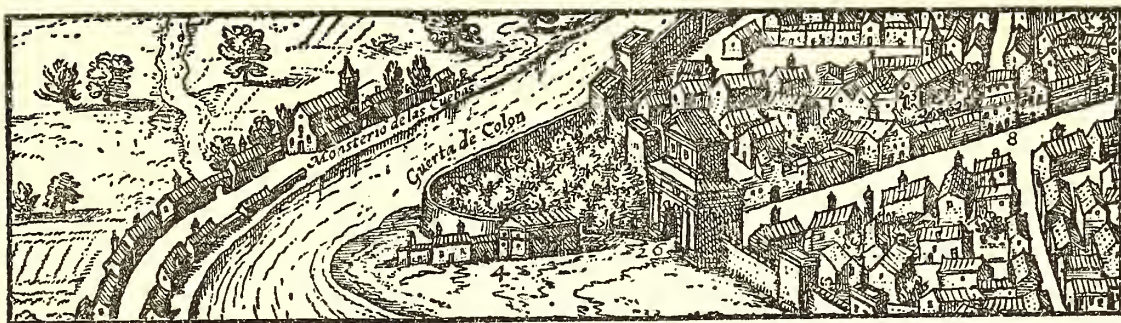
To all controversialists and especially to those writers who claim that there were no portraits of Columbus made during his lifetime, I have nothing to say; but those who are much more imaginative and who would like to find faces for their fancies whether of Columbus, his sons, or of the notaries and scribes, may refer to the notarial title-page of the Paris Codex, where they will find sketch faces in the F of the last line, in the E of the third line, and in the first letter of the page. Different ones there and elsewhere are in the Genoa Codex. These faces were drawn at a period when portraits or grotesques were

sometimes introduced into initial letters in English, French, Italian and Spanish manuscripts.

In conclusion, I give my heartiest thanks to all those who from the outset have given me their most cordial co-operation and assistance. I am indebted to M. Girard de Rialle, the helpful Director of the Foreign Office in Paris, and to his courteous assistants; to Mr. Henry Vignaud, my never-failing friend at the American Embassy; to M. Gruel, for his technical examination of the binding and his opinions, which coincide with those of M. de Rialle and with my own; to Mr. James Fletcher, the United States Consul at Genoa, and through him to Baron Podestá (Mayor of Genoa), the Marquis Staglieno, Signor Grillo, and Mr. William Smith, for numerous courtesies; to Signor Boscassi for the photograph of the bag at page xvi; to Mr. G. F. Barwick, for his transliteration and translation; to Mr. R. E. G. Kirk, for valuable assistance in proof-reading the transliteration and translation; to Messrs. Palm Brothers, who have made the paper in close imitation of that used four hundred years ago; to Mr. Zaehnsdorf, who has assisted me in carrying out a binding of the period; and finally, I am grateful to Mr. Henry Harrisse for his scholarly Introduction. To Messrs. Malby and Sons, who made the photographic plates, and printed in colours the Coats of Arms and the manuscript title-page, and to the Chiswick Press for its careful printing, the highest praise I can give is to refer to this finished volume.

B. F. S.

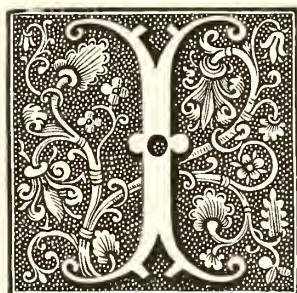
November, 1893.



Introduction

CHAPTER I.

Origin of the Four Cartularies prepared by order of Christopher Columbus in 1502. Presentation of two of them to the Republic of Genoa.



IN the hope of repressing the depredations committed on Ligurian vessels by Catalan and Majorcan seamen, the Republic of Genoa sent Nicolò Oderigo to Spain, in 1501, as special envoy to Ferdinand and Isabella.¹ Christopher Columbus sought his acquaintance at Granada, and had such frequent intercourse with him during his embassy, that in one of his letters he speaks of the Genoese diplomatist as "knowing more about his (Columbus's) own affairs than he did himself."²

The chief topic discussed was the intention on the part of Columbus to assign perpetually to the Bank of St. George, then called the "Ufficio di San Giorgio," one-tenth of his income arising from all his rights and privileges in the New World. The object of the intended gift was to reduce the customs-duty or tax laid upon provisions brought into the city of Genoa.³ Doubtless Columbus then also informed the Genoese ambassador of his desire to entrust to him for safe-keeping a certified copy of the privileges granted by their Catholic Majesties as a reward for the discovery of the transatlantic regions.

Meeting with no success in his diplomatic mission, Oderigo returned to

¹ The files in the Genoese Secret Archives, —*General*, No. 2707, G. Palazzetto, —contain, under the date of April 16, 1501, the instructions given to ODERIGO. COLUMBUS met him for the first time at Granada, in the summer of that year, during which they had many conferences, but subsequently they never saw each other again.

² "Mycer Nycolo de Oderigo sabe de mys fechos mas que yo propio." Letter of COLUMBUS to the Bank of St. George, April 2, 1502. *Infra*, page 271.

³ Our *Christopher Columbus and the Bank of St. George*, New York (London, privately printed), 4to, page 5.

Italy during the autumn of 1501, but visited Spain again on the same errand the following year.

When Columbus succeeded in obtaining the consent of Isabella that a fourth expedition, the last which he was destined to command, should be fitted out, his heart was sore, and filled with misgivings. It is evident that the recollection of the facility with which the Queen, disregarding his positive rights, had consented two years before to appoint Bobadilla to rule over the newly-found regions, made him apprehend worse treatment still. Nor did he feel certain that in case of his death the privileges granted to him would revert to Diego, his son and heir. In fact, the legal advisers of the Crown openly advocated that the Capitulations or Articles embodying those rights were null and void *ab initio*. Their principal argument deserves to be recalled :

“ En especial por la ley del Ordenamiento de Alcalá . . . sy el Rey las diere a su natural e vasallo e vecino en su reino; en tal caso vala la donacion como en la escritura de previllejo lo dixere ; pero sy la donacion o enajenacion se hiziese en persona no natural ny vecino del reino o extranjero del reino, en tal caso la donacion o enajenacion de las dichas cosas no vale ny debe ser guardada ; de donde se concluye que pues el dicho don Cristoval Colon hera extranjero, no natural ny vecino del reino ny morador en él, segund la dicha dispuscion de la dicha ley, la merced que le fue fecha, aunque fuera para syempre e para sus herederos, no valió ny se deve guardar.”

*“ Especially, by the law of the Ordinance of Alcalá, . . . if the King makes the grant in favour of one of his subjects and vassals, and a denizen in his kingdom, then the grant is valid to the full extent of the wording of the charter of privilege ; but if the grant or alienation be made in favour of one who is neither a subject nor a denizen of the realm, or an alien, in such case the donation or alienation is not valid, and ought not to be observed. Consequently, as the said Don Christopher Columbus was a foreigner and not a native or denizen, and possesses besides no domicile in the kingdom, according to the terms of the said law, this grant, although made to him and his heirs for ever, is not valid, and should not be observed.”*¹

It was apparently under this impression, and for the purpose of placing beyond the reach of enemies the documentary proofs of his rights, that Columbus, when engaged at Seville in preparing for the fourth expedition, determined to have several legalised copies of his privileges made, and lodged safely in different places. The fact that two of these authenticated transcripts were to be kept in Genoa, indicates perhaps the hope that in case of difficulties the Republic would interfere on behalf of his descendants ; as in fact it did in favour of a spurious Genoese claimant² in 1586, when certain lawyers entertained the belief that no member of the family of Columbus then dwelling in Spain, or in the New World, could inherit the estate. This expectation may also be inferred from the letter which he addressed at the same time to the Bank of St. George, conveying the information that steps had been taken

¹ *Respuesta á la peticion presentada por parte del Almirante de las Indias ; in Coleccion de documentos inéditos relativos al descubrimiento, conquista y organizacion de las antiguas posesiones españolas de ultramar. Segunda serie. Publicada por la Real Academia de la Historia. Madrid, 1892, 8vo, Vol. VII.—Vol. I. of the Pleitos de Colon, pages 15-16.* This argument was urged, in judicial proceedings, against Diego COLUMBUS, when he endeavoured to enter into possession of the rights and privileges which he had inherited ; but it necessarily applied likewise to his father.

Thanks to Diego's marriage with the niece of the Duke of ALBA, he obtained a sort of satisfaction, with special reservation, however, on the part of the Crown of its pretensions in this respect : “ sin perjuicio del derecho.”

² Bernardo COLOMBO, of Cogoleto. *Missiva del Senato di Genova a Giambattista DORIA, Ambasciatore per la Repubblica presso la Corte di Madrid, datata del 7 novembre 1586.* See the authorities quoted as regards that singular affair in our *Christophe Colomb, son origine, sa vie, etc.*, vol. i., pages 154-155.

by him to secure to that institution one-tenth of his income, to be employed, as we have already said, in reducing the impost laid on victuals brought into the city.¹

Be that as it may, on the 5th of January, 1502, Columbus requested Estevan de la Roca and Pero Ruys Montero, alcaldes, or city judges, to repair to his dwelling-house, in the parish or quarter of Seville called "Colacion de Santa Maria." There they met the three notaries public required for authenticating legal acts of the kind which he intended to execute. These were Gomez Nieto, Alonso Lucas, and Martin Rodriguez.²

Columbus then and there exhibited originals of the titles, privileges and concessions which Ferdinand and Isabella had granted to him,³ and having submitted these documents to the inspection of the magistrates,⁴ requested them to permit the above-mentioned Gomez Nieto to make several authentic copies of the same. The permission was immediately granted, and four transcripts were duly executed, three on parchment, and one on paper.⁵

The documents thus copied and authenticated amounted only to thirty-five.⁶ Soon afterwards,⁷ however, Columbus caused nine more to be engrossed and added, but, with the exception of two,⁸ without any authentications. Several of these doubtless constituted the "Libro de traslados de cartas" mentioned in his letters to Oderigo,⁹ as distinct from what he called "otro de mis privilegios," which expression certainly refers to the codex in its original form. We are not certain whether these additions were similar in the four cartularies,¹⁰ but notwithstanding the ambiguity of the language used by Columbus in mentioning the two sets sent to Oderigo, we believe that the additional documents were sewed up or bound with the rest, and did not form consequently a separate package.

The copy on paper was remitted at once to Alonso Sanchez de Carvajal, who had been appointed Factor to Columbus,¹¹ and intended to sail shortly for Hispaniola on board one of the ships of the fleet of Nicolas de Ovando.

¹ These benevolent intentions were never carried into effect. *Christopher Columbus and the Bank of St. George*, page 19.

² The name of Martin RODRIGUEZ was omitted by SPOTORNO in his transcript of the Genoese Codex as being illegible,—*Codice Diplomatico*, page 228. Compare the Paris Codex, *infra*, page 181. He was COLUMBUS's own notary, and in that capacity drafted the famous deed of entail of 1498. *Christophe Colomb*, vol. ii., page 155, note 2.

³ That collection of original documents remained until 1609 in the iron chest which contained the archives of COLUMBUS, in a vault of the chapel of Santa Ana, in the Monastery of Nuestra Señora de las Cuevas, near Seville. On the 23rd of July of that year, Nuño COLON DE PORTUGAL, grandson of Isabella, Diego's youngest daughter, whom a recent decision of the Council of the Indies had just declared heir to the titles of his ancestor and to the entailed estate, caused the chest and its contents to be handed over to himself. Most of that original collection is now at Madrid, in the archives of the Duke of VERAGUA, a descendant of Christopher COLUMBUS, through Francisca, the wife of Diego ORTEGON, and daughter of Christoval, who was the son of Diego COLUMBUS, son of Christopher. *Christophe Colomb*, vol. ii., genealogical table iv. bis, page 276.

⁴ See the preamble of the first document in the two codices.

⁵ See the notarial certificate in the Genoese Codex, *infra*, page xxxix.

⁶ This is shown by the wording of the authentications placed after the document of May 24, 1493, *infra*, page 177.

⁷ Concerning the date of 1501, instead of 1502, see *infra*, page xxxviii, in chapter iv. of the present introduction.

⁸ Document XXXVI., *infra*, page 182, which is the Papal Bull, had been previously authenticated at Seville, December 13, 1501 (the date of 1502 is clearly erroneous). Doc. XL., *infra*, page 209, was authenticated also at Seville, March 22, 1502, two months after the first series of documents. Consequently, it cannot have figured in the codex engrossed on paper which COLUMBUS remitted to CARVAJAL, as the latter left Spain for Hispaniola, February 13, 1502. The probability is that that codex lacked also all the documents of the second series.

⁹ See facsimiles of these letters, *infra*, pages 268-275.

¹⁰ See *infra*, page xxxiii, the remarks of Mr. Edward EVERETT.

¹¹ November 4, 1501. MUÑOZ Transcripts, vol. xc., fo. 12. We infer that CARVAJAL sailed with OVANDO, from the recommendation addressed to the latter in that document. See also our *Fasti Columbini*, under the above date. As to the paper copy of the codex having been remitted to CARVAJAL, see the notarial declaration in SPOTORNO's Genoese Codex, *infra*, page xxxix.

One of the copies engrossed on parchment was completed and remitted a few days after March 22, 1502,¹ to Francesco di Rivarola, or "Ribarol," a Genoese banker settled in Seville,² to be forwarded to Nicolò Oderigo, who had returned to Genoa.³ This was enclosed in a bag of red Cordovan leather, kept fast by means of a silver lock,⁴ and contained, besides, a letter requesting him⁵ to acknowledge receipt to Diego Columbus, his son.⁶ In that letter Christopher also informed Oderigo that another copy of the codex was being prepared, and would be sent to him in the same manner by Ribarol.⁷ But when at Cadiz, in May, 1502, and on the eve of sailing, he changed his mind, and entrusted that duplicate to another Genoese banker, called Francesco Cataneo,⁸ to be forwarded immediately. It follows that in the course of the next summer or autumn the two codices intended for Nicolò Oderigo were actually dispatched to Genoa.

The fourth cartulary, which, like the two last, had been engrossed on parchment or vellum, was deposited in the Monastery of Las Cuevas,⁹ near Seville, with the archives of the Columbus family.¹⁰

We will now inquire what has been the fate of the four collections of authenticated copies.

Carvajal sailed from Spain on the 13th of February, 1502, taking with him the codex on paper. No traces of it have ever been found. The probability is that, on account of its texture, it was destroyed in the course of time by the worms and ants in St. Domingo.

The copy deposited in Las Cuevas is apparently the one which Baldassare Colombo, of Cuccaro, one of the claimants in the great suit for the heirship, exhibited to the Council of the Indies at Madrid, January 12, 1583, when he boldly assumed the title of heir to the "mayorazgo," or entailed estate, created by Christopher Columbus in 1498. The description of the codex submitted to

¹ March 21, 1502, COLUMBUS writes to ODERIGO: "El libro de mys escrituras di a miçer Françisco de Ribarol, para que os le enbie, con otro traslado de cartas mesajeras;" *infra*, page 268. But the date of his letter is certainly erroneous, for the authentication of Doc. XL. is dated March 22, 1502.

² *Archivo Municipal de Sevilla*, Sevilla, 1860, folio, vol. i., *Carpetas* 110 and 111, No. 22. Concerning RIBAROL, who had extensive dealings with Christopher COLUMBUS, see our *Fasti Columbini*, and *infra*, page lxiii.

³ At the beginning of the letter of March 21, 1502,—*infra*, page 268—COLUMBUS says to ODERIGO: "La soledad en que nos habeys desado non se puede dezir."

⁴ "Tambien aese tiempo dese a Françisco de Ribarol um libro de traslados de cartas y otro de mis privilegios en una barjaca de cordoban colorado con su çerradura de plata." Letter of COLUMBUS to ODERIGO, December 27, 1504, *infra*, page 272. That silver lock has long disappeared, but, as we have already said, the bag is yet in existence. It is the *only* object once belonging to him which has come down to us.

⁵ In the above-mentioned letter of March 21, 1502, COLUMBUS refers to "otro traslado de cartas mesajeras," and in his other letter to ODERIGO, December 27, 1504, mentioning again that package, he also speaks of a "libro de traslados de cartas," which he distinguishes expressly from "otro de mis privilegios;" *infra*, pages 268 and 272. In our opinion, those

transcripts of letters are Docs. XXXVII., XXXVIII., XXXIX., XL., XLI., XLII., XLIII. and XLIV.; *infra*, pages 198-265.

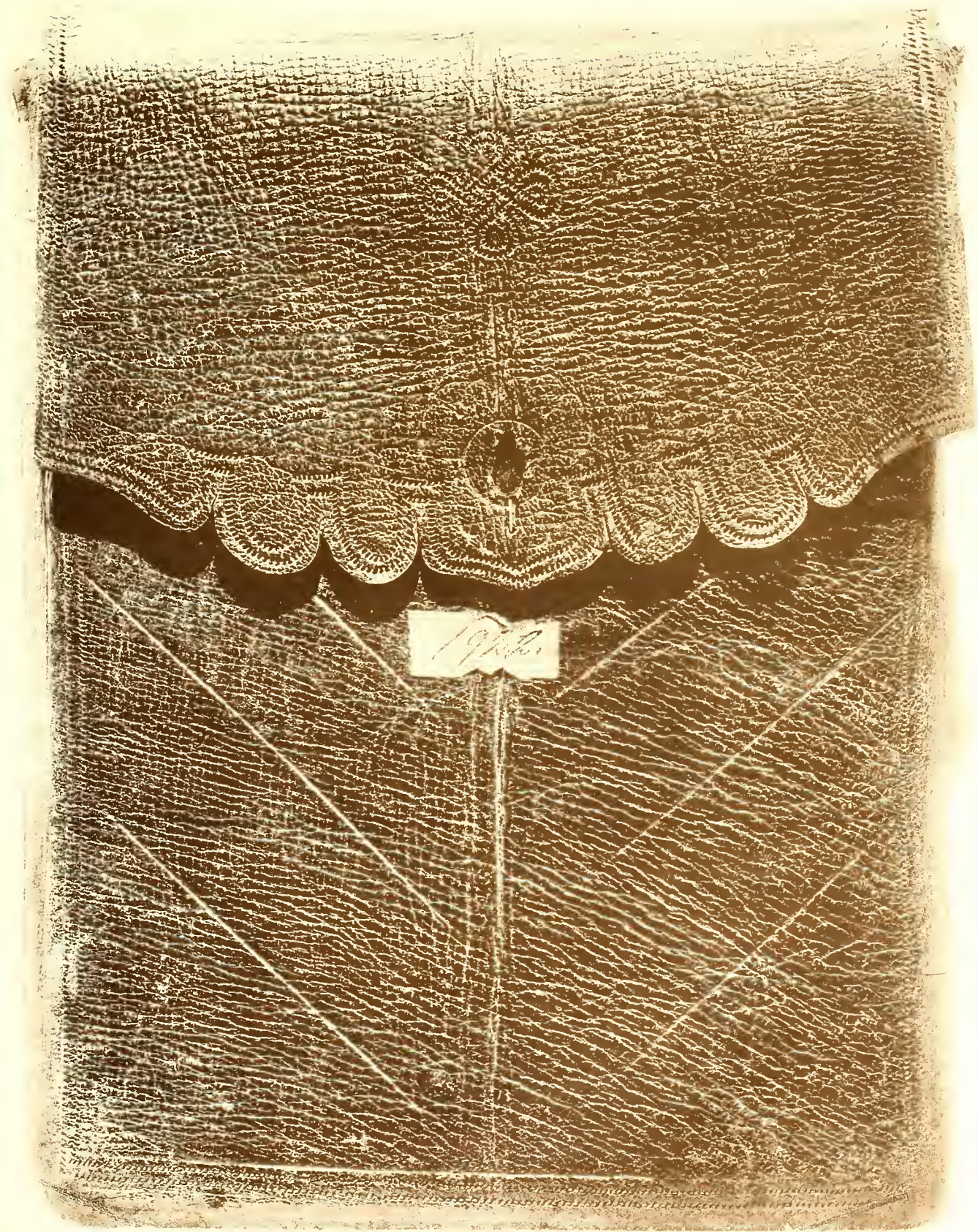
⁶ "Os pido per merced que lo escrivays a Don Diego." Letter of March 21, 1502; *infra*, page 268.

⁷ "Otro tal se acabara, y se os enbiara por la mesma guisa, y el mesmo miçer Francisco." Letter above quoted.

⁸ "Otro libro de mys privilegios, como lo sobre dicho dese en Calis, a Franco Catanio portador desta [carta], para que tambien os enbiase, el uno y el otro fuesen puestos en buen recabdo, adonde a vos fuese bien visto." Letter of COLUMBUS to ODERIGO, December 27, 1504; *infra*, page 272.

⁹ We read in the Instructions which COLUMBUS left with his son Diego: "Todos mis privilegios y escrituras quedan a fray don Gaspar," and in the notarial certificate, *infra*, page xxxix: "Esta en el dicho Monasterio un libro traslado de los privilegios e cartas susodichos, semejante que esto."

¹⁰ COLUMBUS first kept his papers in a plain casket. He refers to it in his letter to Father GORRICIO of April 4, 1502: "Mi arquita para algunas escrituras." NAVARRETE, vol. i., page 331. This was replaced by a box made of cork, and lined with wax: "Querria mandar hacer una caja de corcha enforrada de cera." *Op. cit.*, page 333. Finally, for that box he substituted a large iron coffer. See the certificate of Pedro DE ARTIAGA, July 24, 1566, in the *Memorial del Pleyto*, fo. 156, § 1013—§ 1021.



BAG IN WHICH COLUMBUS TRANSMITTED THE BOOK OF HIS PRIVILEGES
TO THE GENOESE AMBASSADOR. MARCH, 1502.

(PHOTOGRAPHED FROM THE ORIGINAL IN THE CITY HALL, GENOA).

the judges on that occasion is as follows: "A bound volume containing transcripts of the privileges of the Admiral, executed at Seville, January 5, 1502, and professing to be signed by Martin Rodriguez, a notary public of that city."¹

The date and autographic name of the notary indicate that it was one of the original transcripts made by order of Columbus in 1502. Our reasons for believing that it is the one which was originally deposited in Las Cuevas, is that according to a certificate added to the Genoese codex, only four transcripts were executed.² Now, one of these, which was on paper, and less complete than the others, went to Hispaniola, and is not likely to have been sent back to Spain. Two were forwarded directly to Genoa, and can be easily identified, as we will soon show. The fourth one was the Las Cuevas copy, which we take to be identical with the legalised transcript produced by the Montferrat claimant, because, to controvert this supposition, the critic must assume that the notary Martin Rodriguez made a fifth and antedated copy after Columbus had left Spain; which is possible, but not very probable. In the fourth chapter of the present introduction, we shall perhaps find other traces of that valuable manuscript.

We know what became of the two codices intended for Nicolò Oderigo. That diplomatist received them in good order.³ Immediately upon his return to Genoa the second time,⁴ he remitted to the Bank of St. George the letter of Columbus of April 2, 1502, addressed to that institution, wherein mention is made of his intended legacy of a part of his income to the city of Genoa. The two cartularies and the bag of Cordovan leather, he retained. As they had been sent to him for safe keeping,⁵ without specifying the manner in which the recommendation was to be carried into effect, we infer that, in the opinion of Oderigo, the archives of his own family were as good a place as any.

These two precious manuscripts remained in the possession of his descendants, till Lorenzo Oderico, in 1670, presented both of them to the Republic of Genoa, not, however, as a gift absolutely disinterested.⁶ In his mind, and in that of his son and heir Giovanni Paolo, it was rather a bid for certain favours, as can be seen from these two previously unpublished documents:⁷—

"1700. 29 Gennaio. Pro M^{co} Joanne Paulo Oderico q^m Laurentii, a quo fuerunt presentati libri privilegiorum q^m Christophori Columbi.

"1700. 29 January. For the Magnificent Giovanni Paolo Oderico, son of the late Lorenzo Oderico, by whom the books containing the Privileges of Christopher Columbus were presented.

Serñi Signori :

Il q. hora M. Lorenzo Oderico sin l'anno 1670 presentò a' Serñi Coleggi

Most Serene Lords :

In the year 1670 the late Messer Lorenzo Oderico presented to the Most

¹ "Un libro encuadernado en que estan traslados de los privilegios del Almirante, sacados en Sevilla, en cinco de Enero de 1502, y parecen signados de Martin Rodriguez, escrivano publico de Sevilla." *Memorial del Pleyto*, § 198.

² See this certificate quoted, *infra*, page xxxix.

³ "Micer Francisco diz que todo llego alla." *Infra*, page 272.

⁴ "Per lo spectabile jureconsulto messer nicolo de oderigo ritornato da la legatione per questa excelsa nostra comunita apresso de quelli excellentissimi et gloriosissimi Re, m'e stata data una lettera de vostra claritudine.—Through the honorable jurist, M. Nicolò de Oderigo, on his return from the embassy to those Most Excellent

and Glorious Sovereigns entrusted to him by our exalted Commonwealth, I have received a letter from Your Excellency." Letter addressed by the Bank of St. George to Christopher COLUMBUS, December 8, 1502. *Christopher Columbus and the Bank of St. George*, pages 9 and 10.

⁵ "Para que los ponga en buena guardia." Letter of COLUMBUS of April 2, 1502, *infra*, page 271.

⁶ *Infra*, page 274, the reader will find a facsimile of the hitherto unpublished text of the decree signifying acceptance of the two cartularies.

⁷ State Archives in Genoa. Files entitled "*Privilegi onorifici*.—Honorary Privileges."

due risguardevoli libri di carta pergamena, ne' quali si contiene copia autentica delli privilegi concessi dal Re Ferdinando e Regina Isabella di Spagna a Cristoforo Colombo Genovese, a fin che loro Signorie Serñie facessero conservare detti libri nel pubblico Archivio, come degna memoria d'un nazionale così glorioso.

Si compiacquero VV. SS. Serñie, in segno del benigno gradimento dell' affetto e zelo di detto M. Oderico, decretare che a suo favore ne fosse fatta una pubblica testimonianza, con raccomandarlo efficacemente tanto a' Serñi Coleggi, quanto all' uno e l'altro Consiglio, in tutte le occasioni che al medemo si rapresenteranno di aspirare ad alcun officio così di Terraferma come di Corsica, come dal decreto che si presenta. Non ha havuto detto M. Lorenzo tempo di ricevere il beneficio così generosamente da VV. SS. Serñie concessole, mentre assai subito si ridusse in stato di non poter servire, e poi morì. Ricorre hora alla generosità di VV. SS. Serñie il M^{co} Gio. Paolo, suo unico figlio, humilmente supplicandole a voler essere servite, in seguito di detta devota attione di suo Padre, rinovare a suo favore detto decreto, per poter partecipare del beneficio di detta Gratia, giacche l'anticipata morte del Padre non le ha permesso goderne quel frutto che era stato prefisso: il che come effetto della paterna benignità di VV. SS. Serñie sperando ottenere, le fa profondissima riverenza

Di VV. SS. Ser^{me}

Detto Supplicante."

"1700. à 29. Gennaio.

Avendo l'ora q. M. Lorenzo Oderico presentato nell' anno 1670 a Ser^{mi} Collegi due libri, in ognuno de' quali si contiene in carta pergamena copia autentica delli privilegi concessi dal Re Fernando e dalla Regina Isabella di Spagna sua moglie a Cristoforo Colombo, Genovese, in premio delle di lui famose operazioni nella con-

Serene Colleges two notable parchment books, containing an authentic copy of the privileges granted by King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain to Christopher Columbus, a Genoese, to the intent that their Most Serene Lordships might cause the said books to be preserved in the public Archives, as a worthy memorial of such an illustrious compatriot.

Your Most Serene Lordships were pleased, in token of your gracious appreciation of the affection and zeal of the said Messer Oderico, to decree that a public acknowledgment thereof should be made in his favour, by recommending him effectually, both to the Most Serene Colleges and to each of the two Councils, upon every occasion that might occur to him of aspiring to any office, whether on the mainland or in Corsica, as shown by the decree which is presented. The said Messer Lorenzo did not have time to receive the favour so generously granted to him by Your Most Serene Lordships, for he fell very rapidly into a state of inability for service, and then died. The Magnificent Giovanni Paolo, his only son, now has recourse to the generosity of Your Most Serene Lordships, praying that You will be pleased, in consideration of the said generous action of his father, to renew the said decree in his favour, so that he may be enabled to participate in the benefit of the said Grace, seeing that his father, to whom the advantage had been limited, was unable to enjoy it owing to his premature death. In the hope of obtaining this through the paternal benignity of Your Most Serene Lordships, the most profound reverence is made to you by

*Your Most Serene Lordships'
said Petitioner."*

"1700. 29 January.

The late Messer Lorenzo Oderico having presented to the Most Serene Colleges, in the year 1670, two books, in each of which is contained an authentic copy, on parchment, of the privileges granted by King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain, his wife, to Christopher Columbus, a Genoese, as a reward for his celebrated achieve-

quista del Nuovo Mondo, ad effetto che le SS. Loro Serñie si compiacessero di far conservare detti libri nel pubblico Archivio, come degna memoria d'un Nazionale sì glorioso, ricevuti per un attestato dell' affetto e zelo che detto M. Lorenzo professava al servizio pubblico :

Per il che accettarono i Serñi Collegi detti libri, e per dar segno del loro gradimento ordinarono che se ne facesse una pubblica testimonianza a favore del detto M. Lorenzo, con raccomandarlo efficacemente tanto a medesimi Serñi Collegi, quanto all' uno e l'altro Consiglio in tutte le occasioni che al medesimo si fossero rappresentate di aspirare ad alcun ufficio. Ma essendo egli morto senza aver avuto tempo di godere del beneficio da lor SS. Serñie concessogli, hanno le medesime a palle ordinato, che si rinnovi a favore del M^{co} Gio. Paolo suo figlio detto attestato, e raccomandazione da farsi al medesimo in ogni occasione che egli aspiri a qualche ufficio, ad effetto che si possa avere il dovuto riguardo del zelo et affetto, che ha dimostrato detto M^{co} Lorenzo, suo padre, nella presentazione di essi libri, e si possa anche convenientemente gratificarlo in dette congiunture.

(C^a) FRANCESCO MARIA."

"1700, à 29. Gennaio.

Letta a Serñi Collegi detta sup-
plica e il decreto fatto a 10. Gennaio
del 1670 a favore del M. Lorenzo
Oderico, etc.

Discorsa la pratica che si rinnovi
a favore del detto M. Gio. Paulo, sup-
plicante l'attestato, e decreto suddetto
in tutto e per tutto, come era fatto per
detto M. Lorenzo.

Ad Calculos.

(C^a) FRANCESCO MARIA."¹

We are unable to say how long the two codices remained undisturbed in the place where they had been deposited. When the great Orientalist

¹ See in the State Archives of the Palazzetto, in Genoa, the collection of *Privilegj onorifici*; separate file.

ments in the conquest of the New World, in order that their Most Serene Lordships might be pleased to cause the said books to be preserved in the public Archives, as a worthy memorial of such an illustrious compatriot, accepting them as a token of the affection and zeal which the said Messer Lorenzo avowed for the public service :

The Most Serene Colleges therefore accepted the said books, and desiring to give a proof of their appreciation, decreed that a public acknowledgment thereof should be made in favour of the said Messer Lorenzo, by recommending him effectually both to the Most Serene Colleges and to each of the two Councils, upon every occasion that might occur to him of aspiring to any office. But seeing that he died without having had time to enjoy the favour granted to him by their Most Serene Lordships, they have decreed by ballot that the said acknowledgment be renewed in favour of the Magnificent Giovanni Paolo, his son, and that recommendation be made on his behalf whenever he may aspire to any office, in order that due regard may be paid to the zeal and affection shown by the said Magnificent Lorenzo, his father, in the presentation of those books, and that it may also be possible to requite him suitably on the said occasions.

(Certified) Francesco Maria."

"1700, 29 January.

There having been read to the Most Serene Colleges the said petition and the decree made on the 10th of January, 1670, in favour of the Magnificent Lorenzo Oderico, etc.

The matter having been discussed, [it was resolved] that the acknowledgment and decree aforesaid should be renewed in favour of the said Magnificent Giovanni Paolo, the Petitioner, in everything and by everything, as it was done for the said Messer Lorenzo.

Ad Calculos.

(Certified) Francesco Maria."

Sylvestre de Sacy went to Genoa in 1805, on a mission from the French Institute,¹ he saw one of them in the State Archives. If he had seen the other, the existence of a duplicate of a manuscript of that importance would have certainly attracted his attention. We infer from his silence on the subject that he saw only one of the two codices. Whether the other was kept in a chest which he did not examine, or had already disappeared,² is a question which at the present day cannot be satisfactorily answered.

The codex which De Sacy saw will be the subject of our next chapter. Its mate was recovered in June, 1816, when the heirs of Count Michel-Angelo Cambiaso offered his library for public sale in Genoa. The recovery happened under the following circumstances.

No. 1922 of the Cambiaso catalogue was a manuscript bearing the title of *Codice de' Privilegj del Colombo*. The Genoese archivists recognised it as one of the two cartularies sent by Columbus to Nicolò Oderigo in 1502. It was acquired by the King of Sardinia, who, after causing a copy to be made and lodged in the Royal Archives at Turin, sent the original as a gift to the city of Genoa. It is now preserved in the Palace of the Genoese Municipality,³ in a columnar marble receptacle, called "Custodia," together with three autograph letters of Christopher Columbus, and the original bag of Cordovan leather in which the first duplicate of the codex and the letter to the Bank of St. George were forwarded to Genoa, as we have related.

In 1823, the Decurions of that city ordered the manuscript to be translated and printed.⁴ Soon afterwards, a translation into English appeared in London,⁵ and in 1867 the Spanish text was republished in Havana.⁶

¹ *Mémoires de l'Institut royal de France, classe d'hist. et de littérature ancienne*, vol. iii., 1818, p. 91.

² If we may judge from the following remark of Signor Cornelio DESIMONI, there was already a rumour that the two codices had disappeared as early as January 29, 1700: "E già nell' anno 1700 vociferandosi che i due Codici non fossero più al loro posto, si ne era fatto interpellò in Consiglio ed ordinata al Magistrato della Inquisizione di Stato una inchiesta ad appurare il fatto."—Archivio di Stato. *Secretorum*, January 29, 1700. DESIMONI, *Di alcuni recenti Giudizi intorno alla patria di Cristoforo Colombo*, page 9.

³ SPOTORNO, introduction to the *Codice Diplomatico Colombo-Americano*, pages lxxii-lxxvii.

⁴ *Codice diplomatico Colombo-Americano ossia Raccolta di Documenti Originali e inediti, spettanti a Cristoforo Colombo, alla scoperta ed al Governo dell' America*. Pubblicato per ordine degli Illmi. Decurioni della Città di Genova. Genova, dalla stamperia e fonderia Ponthenier, Novembre 1823. 4to, lxxx and 348 pp. With the arms,

facsimiles of two autograph letters of Christopher COLUMBUS, lithograph of the *Custodia*, and steel engraving of a portrait entitled "Cristoforo Colombo." The introduction is by Father SPOTORNO. Reprinted, with other matter, by Giuseppe BANCHERO, Genoa, 1857, large octavo, lxxix and 588 pages, with facsimiles.

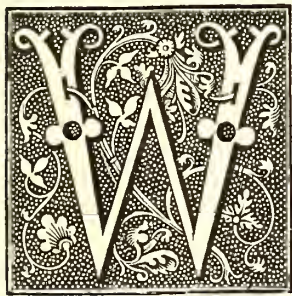
⁵ *Memorials of Columbus: or a collection of authentic documents of that celebrated navigator, now first published from the original manuscripts, by order of the Decurions of Genoa. Translated from the Spanish and Italian*. London: Treuttel and Wurtz, Treuttel, Jun. and Richter, 30, Soho Square, 1823. 8vo, clix and 256 pp. Same engraved portrait as the above, and facsimiles of the autograph letters of COLUMBUS of March 21, 1502, and December 27, 1504.

⁶ *Codice Diplomatico-Americano de Cristóbal Colon. Colección de cartas de privilegios, cédulas y otras escrituras del gran descubridor del Nuevo Mundo*. Habana, 1867, 4to, x and 299 pages, with facsimile and portrait.



CHAPTER II.

A Discovery among the Archives of the Department of Foreign Affairs in Paris.



WE have now to give an account of the discovery of one transcript of the Columbus Codex and other Genoese documents among the muniments preserved in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Paris. But it is necessary first of all to make a few remarks regarding that archival repository.

The archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for a long time after their creation by the Marquis de Torcy in 1710, were inaccessible, and surrounded with a mystery which is not entirely dispelled at the present day. People imagined that they contained terrible State secrets. No one, therefore, ventured during more than a century even to express the wish to enter such hallowed precincts. But under the reign of Louis-Philippe, when documentary history commenced to find favour in France, a number of conscientious workers, who had chosen for the subject of their studies the reign of Louis XIV. and the Regency, made strenuous efforts to be allowed to consult the archives of that department for the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. A chosen few, with great difficulties, succeeded in examining certain files, but the generality of applicants were debarred from the privilege.

Of course, no inventory or catalogue had ever been communicated to the public. Perhaps there was none in existence. At all events, the generality of historians knew only of such stray lists as could be found in the manuscript division of the Paris National Library.¹ These, however, related exclusively to the dealings of France with foreign nations one or two hundred years ago. This paucity of data led the searchers engaged in writing on subjects of an earlier period, or relating to other countries, to view with a sort of indifference the illiberality of the State Department; convinced as they were that its archives contained nothing which could be of any avail to them. Then the custodians had a well-deserved reputation for hostility towards all outsiders, sufficient to repel endeavours in that direction.

Being, nevertheless, anxious to study the negotiations initiated in 1629 by Cardinal de Richelieu to obtain from England the restitution² of Quebec, and vaguely supposing that the dispatches of Châteauneuf still existed in what was left of the old portfolios, we appealed, when writing the *Notes sur la Nouvelle-France*, to one of the directors, who had been Minister to the United States. This enlightened diplomatist kindly seconded our research, and, on the plea that he required the documents for his own investigations, obtained communication of the files relating to Canada; which we examined

¹ Such, for instance, as the *Mémoire concernant les papiers de la charge de Secrétaire d'Etat des pays étrangers* (1681), since published by Mr. Léopold DELISLE, in the *Bibliothèque de l'Ecole des Chartes*, 1874, page 356.

² See "Dépêche du Cardinal de Richelieu à M. de Châteauneuf, Ambassadeur à Londres," 8 Nov., 1629, in *Collection de documents inédits sur l'histoire de France*; Paris, 1858, vol. iii., page 461.

in his private office.¹ Nothing that could be seen or heard then and there was calculated to convey the impression that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs possessed any other documents than such as were of merely local importance. Strange to say, it was historical literature which finally forced the doors of those mysterious archives, and disclosed their riches.

The admirable Memoirs of the Duc de Saint-Simon (1694-1754), as much on account of peculiar literary merit as of great historical worth, attracted in France, from the moment of their first publication in an abridged form (1789), the greatest attention. Gradually, as new fragments were published (1791, 1829, 1856), the popularity of the Memoirs increased to such an extent that a regular campaign was organized to ferret out the original manuscripts and other writings of Saint-Simon which had not then been printed. It was generally believed that the entire collection lay hidden in the archives of the department of Foreign Affairs; but nothing definite could be ascertained on the subject. Finally, by means of notarial inventories, the complete list was made out, and proofs were obtained that those valuable papers were actually preserved in the State Department.

The Paris press thereupon became so clamorous, and protestations from French savants were uttered with such energy, that the Duc Decazes made it a point, on being appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs, to give satisfaction to public opinion. On the 21st of February, 1874, he decided that the archives of his department should be accessible, but only to those who had obtained permission from a board, which was immediately instituted. Unfortunately, the archivists were more than ever bitterly opposed to that liberal measure, and those good intentions therefore remained almost a dead letter.

The Duc Decazes was succeeded by other ministers who cannot be said to have been prompted in that respect by the enlightened spirit of their predecessor. And, *mirabile dictu*, it was particularly when a savant or an academician took possession of the office that difficulties increased. At last a civil engineer, M. de Freycinet, was made Minister of Foreign Affairs, and on a day of the spring of 1880, ever to be remembered, the archives of his department were thrown open to the public!

Immediately upon being kindly informed that these archives contained numerous ancient Genoese documents which had never been brought to light, on May 20, 1880, we addressed a petition to the Minister, asking leave to consult those of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. This was granted on the 31st of May, and, bright and early the next day, we repaired to the Palace of the Quai d'Orsay.

The custodians introduced us at once into a room in which had been collected, for the purpose of inspection, a vast number of manuscripts, bound in volumes of various sizes. We were particularly struck with a series of very large and thick folios, in extremely old calf binding, shut by means of bronze clasps in the shape of pilgrim shells. But our astonishment may well be imagined when, on examining those stately manuscripts, we ascertained that they were the famous *Libri jurium* of the Genoese Commonwealth, which everyone in Italy believed to have been destroyed during the first quarter of the present century.

Although their contents are not quite germane to the subject, we beg leave to give a short account of these invaluable documents.

In the thirteenth century, the Genoese still adhered to the Imperial

¹ Those files contain nothing on the subject, but there is inserted among the manuscripts, the extremely rare printed pamphlet, *Commissions du Roy et de Monseigneur l'Admiral au Sieur de Monts pour l'habitation es terres de Lacadie*;

Paris, *Philippe Patisson*, 1605, 8vo,—and the printed *Lettres de provision de la charge de Viceroy . . . données à Monsieur le Duc Dampville* [de Damville], 1655; *sine anno aut loco*, 4to. *Notes sur la Nouvelle-France*, pages 17, 98, 303.

custom¹ of annually selecting a foreign nobleman to rule over the Republic. There was no other means of keeping at peace the adverse political parties which, when left to themselves, were a constant cause of strife, turmoil, and bloodshed. That imported ruler bore the title of Podestà.

In the year 1229, Jacopo Balduino received the appointment. He came from Bologna, and justly enjoyed the reputation of a great jurist.² One of his first steps was to order that all the compacts and treaties with foreign nations, with the Church, and with the Office of St. George, as well as the privileges, deeds, bonds of fealty, public resolutions, in fine, every act of importance to the Commonwealth, in the past and in the future, should be transcribed by appointed notaries in registers, to which full faith and credit was to be given, and which were designed to replace the originals in case of destruction.³

The registers thus compiled soon became so numerous that, fearing their dispersion, the City Council in 1253 ordered a new transcription, but in one very large register only. In 1296, there were nevertheless in existence already two such enormous books of records, and the series was continued until a *Sextus* had been completed in 1635.⁴

It was that venerable and magnificent set of original and authentic documents which had been spread on the table. With it were other manuscripts not less important, particularly the decisions promulgated by Marshal de Boucicault, when, acting as representative of the King of France at the beginning of the fifteenth century, he re-organized the administration of Genoa, and enacted those laws which contributed so much, for more than 300 years, to the prosperity of the Republic.⁵ There were, besides, manuscripts of great beauty and historical importance, such, for instance, as the Annals of Caffaro-Taschifellone, the oldest of the Genoese chroniclers,⁶ and those of his successors, including the *Annalia* of Giorgio Stella. Finally, resting upon a pile of *Miscellanea*, chiefly in the handwriting of Federico Federici, we beheld one of the two original cartularies which Christopher Columbus had sent to Nicolò Oderigo in 1502!

In the following chapter we shall endeavour to ascertain how such manuscripts happen to be at present in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. But before dismissing the subject just now, it should be stated that they were spoils sent from Genoa during the long occupancy of the city by the French at the beginning of the present century, and have been retained, although the over-

¹ The system of podestas originated with the Emperor Frederick BARBAROSSA, in the middle of the twelfth century. It lasted in Genoa until 1257, when the "podestà" was replaced by a "capitano," native born.

² SAVIGNY, *Geschichte des Römischen Rechts im Mittelalter*; second edition, Heidelberg, 1850-1851, 8vo, vol. v., pp. 99-114; TIRABOSCHI, *Storia della letteratura italiana*; edit. of 1807, vol. iv., part ii., pp. 267, 268.

³ The decree has been published by M. DE SACY, *Notices et extraits des manuscrits de la Bibliothèque du roi et autres bibliothèques; publiés par l'Institut royal de France; faisant suite aux notices et extraits lus au comité établi dans l'Académie des inscriptions et belles-lettres*, vol. xi., 1827, page 21.

⁴ Three other volumes are improperly designated under the names of *Septimus*, *Octavus*, and *Nonus*. These are quite different from the real *Libri jurium*. The *Septimus*, for instance, is Jacopo DORIA's duplicate transcript of the *Primus*, and does not contain any new matter.

The *Octavus* is a sort of compendium of indexed extracts. The *Jurium Nonus* might be said to belong to the series if it referred to acts emanating from the City authorities; but this *Instrumentorum et Investiturarum Liber* is a chronological repertory of the decrees promulgated by the representatives of the French King, CHARLES VI., when Genoa placed herself under the protection of France (1396-1409).

⁵ See *Christopher Columbus and the Bank of St. George*, pages 51-69.

⁶ As with the Columbus Codex and a number of 4to volumes of that Genoese collection, the original binding has been torn away, and replaced by a very poor modern one. At the end of the Caffaro MS., there is a note by Giovanni CIBO, dated 1568, stating that he bought it from a priest for four gold "nomma." Then comes a note by Giulio PASQUA to the effect that he purchased it from CIBO in 1573; and one by Federico FEDERICI relating that he acquired the MS., November 25, 1613, for twenty-five gold "nom."

throw of Napoleon's empire had in most cases led to the restitution of the foreign archives collected in Paris.

Nearly all the other documents of Genoese origin were in fact sent back to Italy in 1816, but they remained in Turin during at least forty years.¹ Finally, the Sardinian government consented to restore the Genoese portion to the city of Genoa; and when the cases were opened, the absence of the *Libri jurium*, Caffaro and Stella was noticed, but without surprise. The archivists shared the common belief that those manuscripts had disappeared from the Ligurian State Repository at the time when the archives were being packed to be sent to France; as it was well known that several of the Genoese employés then committed great depredations, and stole quantities of valuable manuscripts, especially from among those which were engrossed on parchment or vellum.

Patriotism, or a taste for collecting historical documents, was not the incentive of such nefarious acts. They were prompted simply by the desire to turn the volumes into money; and, in fact, entire files were sold, and put to ignominious uses in the city. Parchment was an article employed in various ways; but it had become so scarce in Genoa, that to copy the treaty of peace of 1748 none could be obtained, except by tearing off four blank sections from the *Jurium Septimus*.² So that when, several years after the removal of the archives to Paris, a duplicate of the *Primus* and one of the *Secundus*³ were found in the workshop of a gold-beater in Genoa, ready to be cut up, everyone became convinced that the rest of the *Libri* had been destroyed in serving to foliate gold for gilding purposes.

This great misfortune did not deter the last archivist of the Office of St. George, Signor Cornelio Desimoni, from endeavouring to reconstruct those documental series, which are of such paramount importance for the history of the Ligurian Republic. When we first met that venerable savant, at the time of our early researches among the Genoese archives, he was sedulously engaged in that patriotic undertaking, but with limited success, notwithstanding the extracts and notes left by Poch, Federici, Botto and other ancient searchers. It is easy to imagine his joy when we informed him of the existence of the original documents; although some time elapsed before he could be permitted to learn where they were deposited.

¹ These archives were still at Turin in 1851, and even in November, 1857. See *Archives des Missions scientifiques et littéraires*, Paris, 1851, vol. ii., page 380, and, *infra*, the quotation from CANALE's pamphlet: *Del riordinamento degli Archivi di Genoa, con una indicazione ragionata di tutti i documenti già trasportati di Genova a Parigi*. But they were finally restored, as above.

² See the note in the handwriting of the Abbé POCH DE SARZANE, at the end of the *Septimus* so called.

They still possess in the State Archives at Genoa three of those volumes, viz.: a *Primus*

jurium duplicatus, a *Secundus jurium* (wanting its second part), and a sort of triplicate of the *Primus*. The latter, not being kept with the others in the Secret Archives, but among the papers of the "Camera" (Finances), escaped the fate of the volumes which were sent to Paris. The other two are the *Libri* which were saved from the hands of the gold-beater. The *Liber jurium*, published in the *Historiæ Patriæ Monumenta* (1836-1855, fol.), constitute an amalgamated edition of the three volumes just described. Copies from the other *Libri* have since been secured.



CHAPTER III.

When and how did the Paris Cartulary enter the Archives of the State Department?



NE of the greatest wishes of Napoleon I. was to make Paris the capital of the civilized world, in every sense of the term. An entire chapter could be written on the plans which he devised to that effect. One of them was to centralise in a large palace, which his architects commenced to build,¹ all the archives of the French Empire, then embracing most of the continent of Europe, with a fair prospect of soon absorbing the rest.²

The project, which seems to have been conceived in 1809,³ was immediately put in execution. On the 7th of October, 1810, 2,206 cases of documents sent from Vienna were already unpacked and lodged in the attic of the Soubise Palace; thirty wagons full of Spanish archives were on their way from Simancas to Paris, and about 470 more had been prepared to follow. Austria again forwarded 933 cases, Rome 12,147. Then came the archives of Florence, Perugia, Spoleto, Sienna, Parma, Piacenza, Genoa, besides numerous files taken from the repositories of Tyrol, Galicia, Belgium, and Holland.⁴ Archivists from those countries were compelled to accompany the consignments to Paris.

At first, only important documents seem to have been selected for transportation to the French capital; but soon afterwards, the rest was packed up bodily, and forwarded.⁵ The Soubise Palace and its new dependencies became so crowded, that Napoleon himself had to interfere, and damp the zeal of his chief archivist, Daunou.⁶ The bulk, however, was already on the high road, in long files of wagons, many of which finally returned to their legitimate abode without having been unloaded.

The little we know concerning the Parisian history of those foreign archives, is to be derived from certain printed statements written and published

¹ Decree of March 21, 1812. But NAPOLEON had already in his possession the plans of that immense palace, at least since 1810, as he showed them to METTERNICH in that year. The building had risen two metres above ground when the work was stopped in 1816. All the plans and correspondence on the subject are yet preserved in the National Archives at Paris, MSS. N. III, *Seine*, 1089.

² METTERNICH, *Mémoires*, Paris, 1880, vol. i., pages 106-107.

³ "Daunou provoqua l'enlèvement des archives partout où un régiment français plantait son drapeau, et il fit écrire à tous nos généraux de prêter main-forte à l'exécution du décret du 2 février 1810." Marquis DE LABORDE, *Archives de l'Empire. Monuments historiques*.

Paris, 1866, 4to, page cvi. This decree, however—Archives Nationales, A F iv, 433, MS.—refers exclusively to the Austrian archives then collected at Passau, and to those of the Vatican.

⁴ BORDIER, *Archives de la France*, Paris, 1855, 8vo, page 403.

⁵ "Nos généraux prenant à la lettre le décret, [du 2 février 1810] les envoyaient [ces archives] sans triage et tout entières en France." DE LABORDE, *op. cit.*, page cvii. An eye-witness relates how curious it was to meet on the high-ways of Europe those immense wagons loaded to the top with heavy boxes full of manuscripts, drawn by long teams of mules, travelling at a very slow pace, and led on by drivers in their national costume.

⁶ *Ibidem*, pages civ-cvi.

by Daunou in 1811, 1812 and 1813, which have become so extremely scarce that only three copies are known to exist.¹

According to these pamphlets, not one of which is complete, the archives of Genoa did not constitute a separate section, nor did they preserve their entity, having been amalgamated with others, first under the title of *Archives du Piémont et de la Savoie*, then of *Archives de la Ligurie réunies*. In August, 1811, that division was yet simply prospective, so to speak, as a note of the time mentions French agents who "were then engaged preparing the transportation of the said archives from Turin to Paris."²

On August 13, 1811, Daunou was commissioned "to repair beyond the Alps to examine the various bodies of archives, and ascertain which it seemed desirable to unite with the Archives of the Empire."³ And as we find him in Genoa from August 30 until September 7, 1811, the probability is that the real selection⁴ was commenced then. More than a year elapsed, however, before the archives selected on that occasion were sent to Paris.

In Genoa or elsewhere, no positive information on the subject could be obtained; nor was a detailed list of the documents which at any time had been removed from the city to be found. The schedule in the possession of the Genoese archivists is a very meagre one, not superior at all events to the rough list inserted in a rare and curious pamphlet written by the late Signor Canale in 1857.⁵ From this publication, we learn that the shipment was effected in October and November, 1812, and comprised 110 cases.⁶ Concise as may be the list of documents then and thus sent, it is sufficient to warrant the assertion that neither the *Libri jurium*, Caffaro, Columbus Codex, nor any of the documents which are at present in the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, formed part of that shipment. We must also infer that those valuable manuscripts had already disappeared from Genoa when Daunou first came to organize the removal of the Genoese archives. It is evident that he would have selected them before all others, particularly in the *Archivio segreto*, if they had then been extant in the State repository.

The fall of the French Empire and the Treaty of Vienna compelled the

¹ We have been able to see but two of those pamphlets. One is entitled *Tableau systématique des Archives de l'Empire au 15 août 1811*, 4to, 18 pages, the last of which bears the imprint, *Baudouin, Imprimerie de l'Institut Imperial*. The other is similar, except that the numbers of the registers, files and packages, instead of being designated by a mere capital letter, are given in printed figures.

There must have been a third edition, bearing on the title, *au 30 décembre 1812*. Finally, we have the positive assertion of the Marquis DE LABORDE, *op. cit.*, page xcii, note, that an edition was published under the title of *Tableau systématique des Archives de l'Empire au 1^{er} janvier 1813, présenté à S. M. l'Empereur et Roi par son très-humble, très-obéissant et très-fidèle sujet, garde de ses archives, Daunou*. We think that Henri BORDIER borrowed from the latter his division entitled *Archives liguriennes réunies*, on page 403 of his valuable *Archives de la France*. According to this, on the 18th of January, 1813, there were lodged in the Soubise Palace 3,002 packages of Ligurian documents; but nothing indicates how many of these belonged originally to Genoa.

² "On est occupé en ce moment du transport de ces archives de Turin à Paris. D'autres corps d'archives sont encore à réunir." DAUNOU, *Tableau systématique*, page 17.

³ DE LABORDE, *op. cit.*, page cviii, note.

⁴ "Triages," to use the nefarious French term, —see in our *Notes sur la Nouvelle-France* a history of the archives of the French Navy Department, in the Introduction, page xi, —were, however, made also in Turin, as, in a letter of DAUNOU, Sept. 7, 1812, he recommends M. DUPRÉ as a fit person to make the required selection in the archives of Belgium, owing to his having "déjà rempli avec succès une mission semblable à Turin." DE LABORDE, *op. cit.*, page cvii, note.

⁵ Michele Giuseppe CANALE, *Del riordinamento degli Archivi di Genova, con una indicazione ragionata di tutti i documenti già trasportati da Genova a Parigi, ed ora esistenti negli archivi di Corte in Torino*. Genova, 1857, sm. 8vo, 28 pages.

⁶ "Nous soussignés Agens généraux des transports de la Marine et du Ministère de l'Intérieur, certifions avoir reçu de Mons. RAIMONDO, Archiviste de la Préfecture de Gênes, tous les papiers, registres et titres énoncés au présent état, renfermés dans cent dix caisses, lesquelles ont été adressées à Mons. DAUNOU, selon les instructions de Mons. FORTIN, entrepreneur général du susdit transport.—Gênes, le 30 novembre, 1812. CHARBONEL frères." Quoted by CANALE, *op. cit.*, pages 11-12, note.

restitution of all the foreign archives in 1815. Commissioners were appointed by Spain, Rome, Austria, etc., to retake possession. The King of Sardinia sent Signor A. L. Costa, who received, April 22, 1816, from M. de la Rue, who had superseded Daunou, in the Soubise Palace, "one hundred and fifty-one cases containing the archives of Genoa, together with a portion of those of Savoy and Piedmont." The wording of the receipt, and the fact that no schedule or list was added, seem to indicate that the documents were still in their original cases, and therefore had not been placed on the shelves of the great French archival centre, or even unpacked.¹

Costa's receipt covers 151 cases, whilst Charbonel, the common carrier to whom the archives were delivered at Genoa in 1812, acknowledges having received in all only 110. The Soubise Palace has harboured therefore 41 cases, the origin of which needs to be ascertained. Were these exclusively composed of documents coming from Savona, Chiavari, Ivrea, Turin, Chambéry, Alexandria, and other cities of Piedmont and Savoy, or did they not also include other cases which might have been removed from Genoa prior to the autumn of 1812? This may be, as we shall presently show that Genoese documents were taken away before the latter date. But the point, so far as the cases remitted to Costa are concerned, can be of no importance, since we know positively, from Canale's description of them, that they did not contain the manuscripts which we are now examining. Nevertheless, it behoves the critic to investigate the question of that first removal of Genoese archives.

On May 7, 1808,² an Imperial decree was issued, ordering that all the archives of the Transalpine Departments, of which Genoa was one, should be brought to Turin, not however *in transitu* preparatory to being sent to France; for the notion of making Paris the great archival centre of Europe did not originate till a year or two afterwards. The decree was founded on the practice, still followed in France, of centralising the archives of each province in its chief city.

On the 9th of September, 1808, twenty-five cases were removed from Genoa. Was it in compliance with the alleged decree of May 7, preceding, and, in consequence, were they sent to Turin, or, rather, to Paris? We do not see why so large a shipment of archives should have been forwarded to the French capital at such an early date. Our impression is that notwithstanding the address inscribed on the boxes,—“To the Minister of the Interior,” the bulk of the expedition of 1808 went to Turin. Be that as it may, there is no schedule of the contents of the twenty-five cases. We possess only their mark, viz., F M, and weight. Canale, however, says, without stating his authorities, that they contained “the originals of the History of Genoa.”³ If so, the *Libri jurium*, Caffaro, Columbus Codex, and the rest, may have been in one or two of them; and September, 1808, is the time of the removal of those particular documents from Genoa. But, thus far, this is only an hypothesis.

On the 18th of June, 1852, a French archivist, M. Camille Friess, was

¹ It must be said, nevertheless, that according to DAUNOU's own statement, as quoted by the Marquis DE LABORDE, *op. cit.*, page cxi, note, at the close of the year 1812, there were already arranged on the shelves of the Soubise Palace, 292,739 bundles and registers: “A la fin de 1812, DAUNOU rappelle avec satisfaction que 292,739 articles, liasses et registres, reposaient sur les rayons de l'Hôtel de Soubise.”

² “Le 7 mai 1808, un décret impérial avait ordonné la réunion, à Turin, des archives des départements transalpins.” DE LABORDE, *op. cit.*, page cvi, note. There is, however, a decree of the kind issued two years previous, March 7,

1806, declaring that “les archives du ci-devant Piémont, existant à Turin, sont une dépendance des Archives Nationales,” and a general archivist, M. F. A. GAVOZZI, was appointed for all the “archives des départements au delà des Alpes.” MS. in the Archives of the Ministry of the Interior.

³ “Precedentemente alla spedizione in Parigi da Genova dei suindicati documenti, addì 9 Settembre del 1808, erano già state inviate colà al ministro dell'interno casse n. 25, contenenti gli originali delle storie di Genova, e molte carte relative a diverse legazioni.” CANALE, *op. cit.*, page 22.

sent by the Institute of France to Genoa, for the purpose of making researches in the State archives. The main object of his mission was to study the documents relating to Corsica; the Academy, however, also instructed him to investigate the files which concerned the administration of Marshal de Boucicault, and others relative to French history.¹

His report, when he returned to Paris, was read before the Academy, March 11, 1853. The Permanent Secretary, after remarking that the mission had proved a failure,² made the following statement: "According to what was said to M. Friess, the State papers and historical documents were abstracted and taken to Paris, in 1806, following upon the researches which M. de Sacy had made in the public repositories of Genoa."³

M. de Sacy had then been dead fifteen years; but many of his former colleagues were present at the meeting, and no one protested against the allegation, which, after all, rested only upon the statements made to M. Friess by the Genoese archivists, nearly half a century after the alleged event. The Secretary, however, made the following remark:

"Without having to justify what happens to have been a *coincidence*, and not a *connection*, as regards the entirely scientific mission of M. de Sacy to Genoa, and the removal of the papers, it is to be regretted that M. Friess should not have known, before replying to the custodians of the Genoese archives, of the declaration from the chief archivist of the kingdom made in 1816, to the effect that he had just remitted to Signor Costa, the Sardinian commissioner, all the collections which came from Genoa."⁴

That statement indicates a sort of confusion in the mind of the Secretary, who evidently possessed information only as regards the archives sent to the Soubise Palace, which came to Paris so late as 1812, and were returned to Piedmont in 1816, apparently without having been even unpacked. The word "coincidence" in his remark is consequently an error on his part; and until a document has been produced by the Genoese archivists to prove their allegation that the removal of the archives in Genoa and the mission of M. de Sacy were "connected," or even "coincided," the statement must be left in abeyance.

This alleged intervention of M. de Sacy induces us to relate how he happened to go to Genoa.

At the close of the last century, there was current among the French savants a legend, just as there is one at present almost everywhere, relative to the existence of important oriental manuscripts in certain inaccessible recesses. In our days, credulous people point to Samarcand, or to the Golden Horn in Constantinople. Formerly, it was Genoa which enjoyed that reputation. The old orientalists were convinced that the numerous incursions of the Genoese in the East, and their wars with the Saracens, had been productive of numerous Arabic, Turkish and Hebrew manuscripts, which were entombed, as they believed, either in the Palace of the Govern-

¹ Report of M. LENORMANT, *Procès verbaux des séances de l'Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres*, MS. in the office of the Secretary of the Institute of France, June 18, 1852.

² If M. FRIESS had gone to Turin, and asked for the documents contained in cases 98-105, he would have obtained all he desired, so far as the chief object of his mission, viz., the history of Corsica, was concerned.

³ "Les papiers d'Etat et les documents historiques furent enlevés, lui a-t-on dit, et transportés à Paris en 1806, à la suite des recherches que M. DE SACY avait faites dans les dépôts publics de Gènes." *Procès verbaux de l'Académie*

des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres de 1849 à 1853, MS., page 508; and *Mémoires de l'Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres*, Paris, 1861, vol. xx., page 19.

⁴ "Sans avoir à justifier la coïncidence et non pas la liaison de la mission toute scientifique de M. DE SACY à Gènes avec l'enlèvement des papiers, il est à regretter que M. FRIESS, pour répondre aux conservateurs des dépôts qu'il visitait, n'ait pas eu connaissance de la déclaration du garde général du royaume, en 1816, portant qu'il venait de remettre à M. COSTA, commissaire du roi de Sardaigne, sur son récépissé, toutes les collections provenant des archives de Gènes." *Op. cit.*

ment in Genoa, or in the Bank of St. George. To ascertain the matter, Napoleon ordered the Institute of France to send a mission to initiate researches in the Genoese archives. It was intrusted to M. Sylvestre de Sacy.

The great French savant repaired at once, in 1805, to Genoa; and, let it be said and noted, he never made another journey out of France. His first visit was to the Palace of the Government; and when by the orders of Lebrun and of M. Bureau de Puzy, the French Prefect of Genoa, the employés opened to him the *Archivio segreto*, he went deliberately to two cabinets, or presses, which had been privately pointed out as containing many ancient manuscripts of importance.

We know from his own description that the *Libri jurium*, Caffaro, and Federici's memoranda, together with the Columbus Codex, were then kept in those two cabinets, the entire contents of which he carefully inventoried.¹

M. de Sacy's account led us to infer that these documents, all of which, as we have already said, still exist side by side in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, just as when kept in the Genoese repository, eighty-seven years ago, were not separated by the parties who first packed and sent them to France, evidently all in the same case. Our inference was strengthened by the fact that the documents form a sort of medley, with no historical connection for the most part. It is clear that the Columbus Codex, or the papers concerning the difficulties with Savona, for instance, have but little analogy to the collection of Statutes at large and other legal documents embraced in the *Libri jurium*. These circumstances forced upon us the conviction that the Genoese series which we are now examining were originally packed up precisely as they came out of the cabinet, and belonged to a case kept undisturbed and entire until its contents were lodged in the State Department of France.

The deliberate manner in which M. de Sacy caused the cabinets to be opened, as well as the private information which prompted his action, indicate that in the opinion of his informers, and in his own, those two cabinets contained the most precious documents in the *Archivio segreto*. And although there was among them only one of immediate interest to that savant, a Hebrew Bible in six large folio volumes, the careful analysis which he gave then and afterwards of the *Libri jurium* shows that those documents proved extremely interesting to him.²

Taking into consideration that his countrymen in 1805 were absolute masters of the city, may he not have conceived then the desire of endowing France with this admirable set of ancient and historical manuscripts? Such a thought was in keeping, it must be said, with the practice of the time. The conquests of the French, in Belgium, in Holland, in the Rhenish provinces, in Italy, were always followed by the arrival of agents sent expressly

¹ "Deux armoires m'avaient été désignées par quelques renseignements particuliers, comme l'endroit sur lequel je devois diriger principalement mon attention. . . . C'est là que se trouvent . . . le manuscrit des annales de Caffari, les privilèges accordés à Christophe Colomb par les rois d'Espagne et donnés aux archives en 1670 par Louis Oderico, les collections précieuses de Federico Federici, Roccatagliata et autres; le recueil manuscrit en onze volumes in-folio, intitulé *Liber jurium*." See *Rapport sur les recherches faites dans les archives du gouvernement et autres dépôts publics à Gênes*, in *Histoire et Mémoires de l'Institut royal de France, classe d'histoire et de littérature ancienne*, vol. iii., Paris, 1818, 4to, page 91. On page 103, M. DE SACY says, "le recueil intitulé *Liber jurium* est composé de dix gros volumes in-folio."

² See in vol. iii. of the *Histoire et Mémoires de l'Institut royal de France*, just quoted, pages 103-125, *Notices des pièces tirées des Archives secrètes du gouvernement, à Gênes*, where M. DE SACY gives an analysis of a number of documents taken from the *Libri jurium*. In 1827 he published, in the *Notices et Extraits des manuscrits de la Bibliothèque du Roi*, vol. xi., pages 1-96, the full text of many of the documents which he had copied in 1805, and besides, very important ones of the years 958, 1178, 1181, 1229, and 1380, also borrowed from the *Libri jurium*, but theretofore unnoticed. It is worthy of remark that we find another French savant, SAINT MARTIN, publishing likewise, *op. cit.*, pages 97-122, an Armenian document of considerable importance, derived from the same source.

from Paris to select in the conquered cities such objects of art and manuscripts as the Government thought desirable to add to the public collections in the Louvre and National Library. Those agents were extremely keen and competent, and invariably chose manuscripts of historical, philological, or artistic importance,¹ disdaining, as a rule, that mass of theological and ecclesiastical writings which constitute the bulk of collections everywhere in Europe. So far as Genoa was concerned, a number of its mediæval charters were in the hands of French savants so far back as the year 1800.² The famous original Caffaro, which is among the jewels of the Paris National Library,³ is one of the manuscripts which found their way to the capital of France in that manner. Under the circumstances, it was not impossible that M. de Sacy should have called the attention of M. Bureau de Puzy to those documents, and expressed the wish to have them sent to France, in 1806.

All this reasoning, however, would contradict two facts. The first is that there are no traces in Genoa of a removal of archives before 1808; and consequently, the archivists who made the statement to M. Friess spoke at random. The second fact is that on the 7th of July, 1807, those documents were still in the same cabinets in Genoa where M. de Sacy had examined them two years previous. We possess his own statement to that effect.

In the report which he submitted to the Institute at the above-mentioned date,⁴ after describing the *Libri jurium*, Caffaro, Columbus Codex, &c., &c., and the two cabinets where they were kept, M. de Sacy added: "I have examined with the utmost care all the volumes, manuscripts, boxes, bundles and portfolios *which are preserved within the same*, and drafted a succinct inventory."⁵

What is more, after calling the attention of the Institute to the importance of the Genoese archives for writing a history of Commerce and Navigation, and to make a corpus of certain documents which would find their proper place in Dumont's *Corps Diplomatique*, the celebrated savant used this noble language:

"Je l'ai déjà insinué et je le repète, le travail dont il s'agit ici ne peut être bien fait qu'à Gênes; il n'y manque point de personnes capable de l'exécuter à la satisfaction du public éclairé. Il n'y a point de doute qu'un semblable

"*I have already intimated, and I repeat, that this undertaking can be properly carried out only in Genoa, where there are persons competent to accomplish it satisfactorily. There is no doubt but such a work would acquire*

¹ Such manuscripts are easily recognised in the foreign libraries to which they were restored in 1816, by the stamp R. F., i.e., "République Française," which they still bear.

² *Mémoires de l'Institut national. Classe des sciences morales et politiques*, vol. iii., An IX., page 23, where we read: "Les chartes qu'on a envoyées de Gênes sont curieuses à cet égard."

³ The three oldest and most complete manuscripts of CAFFARO are in Paris, viz.: 1st, the MS. above mentioned, in the National Library—*Latin*, 10,136,—where it arrived between 1795 and 1805. This valuable codex is the first in every respect, and probably the one which MURATORI was not permitted to see in Genoa; 2nd, FEDERICI'S codex, in the State Department, which we have already cited; 3rd, Giorgio STELLA'S own copy, also in the National Library—*Latin*, 5899,—acquired in 1662, with other manuscripts, which, by the order of LOUIS XIV., were bought from the heirs of the bookseller TRICHET DU FRESNE. It figures under the

designation of *Antiqui Annales Genuenses*, 4. marq. in the *Catalogus librorum bibliothecæ Raphaeli Tricheti Du Fresne; Parisiis, apud viduam et hæredes*, MDC.LXII, 4to, last page of the *Codices latini*. Although DU FRESNE'S manuscripts had been for the greater part purchased by himself in Italy, the *Latin*, 5899, must have been in France already in the fifteenth century, since it was consulted there by Tristan CALCHI, the Secretary of LOUIS XII.

⁴ *Extrait du rapport lu à la classe d'histoire et de littérature ancienne de l'Institut de France, par M. Silvestre de Sacy, sur les recherches faites dans les archives de Gênes, en exécution des ordres du Gouvernement et de la délibération de cette classe du 14 thermidor an 13*. Small 8vo, sine anno aut loco, 11 pages. See also the *Moniteur*, No. 186, July 7, 1807, page 728.

⁵ "J'ai examiné avec le plus grand soin tous les volumes et manuscrits, les cartons, liasses et portefeuilles qui y sont renfermés, et j'en ai fait un état sommaire." *Op. cit.*, page 5. The italics are not in the original.

recueil n'acquière un nouveau mérite, s'il est fait par des hommes qui, au désir d'attacher leurs noms à une collection recherchée, joindront encore cet orgueil national qui se plait à retracer les anciens titres de gloire de la patrie."¹

additional value if made by men who, besides being incited by the desire of adding their names to a collection of that important character, would be further animated by the national pride which delights in reviving ancient testimonies to the glory of the country."

The man who spoke in such terms certainly did not endeavour to deprive Genoa of her national archives!

Although it matters but little whether the Genoese archives now deposited in the Department of Foreign Affairs came to Paris in 1806, in 1808, or afterwards, for the fact is incontestable that they were forwarded to France as *spolia opima*, yet every circumstance calculated to elucidate the subject requires to be stated.

It was the celebrated Baron de Gerando, a scholar, a philanthropist and a great patriot, who suggested to Napoleon the idea of sending De Sacy to Genoa. He had himself occupied a high official position in that city, having been sent with De Champagny in 1805 to effect the annexation of the Ligurian Republic to France.

De Gerando returned to Italy in 1808, as one of the five members of the Junta appointed by the Emperor to reorganize the Kingdom of Etruria. As he was a colleague of De Sacy in the French Institute, he must have been made aware of the great importance of that series of Genoese documents, and it is not impossible that he availed himself of the circumstance to order their removal to Paris. And as he occupied then the office of Secretary General of the Ministry of the Interior, it is natural to suppose that the cases containing those valuable manuscripts may have been directed to the archives of his department, preparatory to a distribution between the Institute and the National Library.

But Canale asserts that twenty-five cases ("casse n. 25") were sent to Paris in 1808. Now, all the Genoese manuscripts at present preserved there could be held in one large box. What became then of the other twenty-four cases? Must we suppose that these were sent to Turin, whilst one was separated from the lot and forwarded to Paris? These are questions which it is impossible to answer at the present day with the information within the reach of inquirers.

As the reader will perceive, if the Parisian history of the Italian archives in the main is pretty well known, something yet remains to be ascertained relative to the most valuable portion of the archives of Genoa; and, more than anyone else, we regret to have failed to answer in a positive manner the question raised at the outset, viz. :—How does it happen that the Columbus Codex and other Genoese documents are at present preserved in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at Paris?² After all, it is sufficient for us to know that the manu-

¹ *Extrait du rapport*, above quoted, page 10.

² As in 1812 Genoa had ceased to be independent, and was a mere department of the French Empire, its archives were not considered as foreign, and consequently every action pertaining to them was under the supervision of the Ministry of the Interior, or Home Secretary. And as its archives at that time were kept in the Rue de Grenelle, as well as those of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, this coincidence may be the sole cause, after all, of the presence of the Genoese documents in the State Department at the present day. We are convinced that they

never went to the Soubise Palace; otherwise they would have been restored to COSTA in 1816 with the 151 other cases of Ligurian archives. And if perchance they had been omitted, owing, we suppose, to the case having been mislaid, but discovered afterwards, when Article 26 of the Treaty of Vienna made it lawful for the French to keep that class of archives, we would find the *Libri jurium*, Columbus Codex, &c., &c., still in the great archival palace, side by side with the large residue from Simancas, which is yet there on file. We can see no reason why a different

script in that superb collection which alone interests the student of American history, viz., the Book of the Privileges of Christopher Columbus, is still preserved in the archival department of the Palace of the Quai d'Orsay, and generously placed at the disposal of the public.

course should have been pursued regarding this set of Genoese manuscripts. With the exception of the *Statuta* enacted by Marshal DE BOUCICAULT, in the name of Charles VI., they do not interest French history. And as to the

Archives Nationales parting with them for the benefit of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, it is difficult to imagine of what use such foreign records of the Middle Ages could be to CHAMPAGNY or to TALLEYRAND.



CHAPTER IV.

Comparison of the Paris, Genoa, and (lost) Boston Cartularies.



As we have already remarked, two of the four authenticated copies which Christopher Columbus caused to be made of his Book of Privileges at Seville in 1502 are the Paris and Genoese codices.

There has been in a private library of Boston a codex on parchment, which was perhaps the third one engrossed on that substance, and certified as above stated. We know of it only through the following statement written in 1824 by Mr. Edward Everett :

"When I was in Florence in 1818, a small folio manuscript was brought to me, written on parchment, apparently two or three centuries old, in binding once very rich, but now worn, containing a series of documents in Latin and Spanish, mostly the latter, with the following title on the first blank page, '*Treslado de las Bullas del Papa Alexandro VI. de la Concession de las Indias y los titulos, privilegios, y cédulas reales, que se dieron a Christoval Colon.*' I was led by this title to purchase the work ; but, deterred by the abundant use of abbreviations and a limited acquaintance with the language, I made no attempt for several years to read it. My attention having been turned again to it, by the publication of the work in Genoa, and having had an opportunity, by the kindness of a friend, of seeing a copy of it, the only one perhaps in this part of the country, I was surprised to find my manuscript, as far as it goes, *nearly* identical in its contents with that of Genoa, supposed to be one of the only two in existence. My manuscript consists of about *eighty* closely written folio pages, which coincide precisely with the text of the first *thirty-seven* documents, contained in two hundred and forty pages of the Genoese volume. A few more documents, wanting in my manuscript, are found in the Genoese work ; and a second Bull of Alexander VI., in Latin, is contained in the former, and is wanting in the latter.

In the last of the documents, contained in the Genoese volume and wanting in my manuscript, we read as follows ;

'Los originales destos privilegios y cartas y cédulas y otras muchas cartas de sus Altezas e otras escripturas, tocantes al Señor Almirante, estan en el Monasterio de Sancta Maria de las Cuevas de Sevilla.

'Otrosy esta, en el dicho Monasterio, un libro traslado de los privilegios e cartas susodichos, semeiante que esto.

'Otro traslado levo este, año de M.D.II., y tiene Alonso Sanchez de Carvajal a las Yndias, escripto en papel e abtorizado.

'Otro traslado en pergamino tal como este.'

Mention is here accordingly made of four copies of these documents, three on parchment and one on paper. Two of them were sent by Columbus himself to Genoa. Whether that procured by me at Florence be a third ; whether it be that supposed to be at Paris ; or what is more probable perhaps, another copy, there are at present no means of deciding. I hope to have in my power, on some other occasion, to describe it more accurately, particularly in those respects in which it differs from the Genoese volume."¹

Mr. Everett never referred again to the subject, and the above is the only description ever made of that valuable manuscript, which has since disappeared altogether.

¹ Edward EVERETT, *An Oration delivered at Plymouth, December 22, 1824.* Boston, 1825, 8vo, pages 64-65, note B. The above extract is not to be found in the subsequent edition or editions of that oration, nor even in the complete works, 1850-59.

We notice first that its title was different from that of the Paris and Genoese codices, although to the same purport. Then the manuscript is reported to have contained "a series of documents in Latin and Spanish, mostly the latter." The Genoa and Paris cartularies contain only one document in Latin, and that is the *second* Bull of Alexander VI., said inadvertently by Mr. Everett to have existed in no other codex than his own. But as the title of the manuscript mentioned "Bullas," in the plural tense, we suppose that it embraced both Bulls (May 3rd and 4th, 1493).

On the other hand, Mr. Everett's codex was written on parchment, and set forth the first thirty-seven¹ documents of the Genoese manuscript, that is, the original series which the great navigator exhibited to the notaries, and caused to be authenticated by the alcaldes.

These data, however, are not sufficient to identify beyond a doubt the Everett codex with the vellum one which was deposited at Las Cuevas. But if the former is ever found again, and shown to contain the preamble of Martin Rodriguez, as well as the authentication at the end of the thirty-sixth² document of the Genoese manuscript, then it will very probably be the Las Cuevas or Baldassare Colombo codex, though the documentary additions should be different from those in the Genoa and Paris cartularies. Baldassare may have taken that valuable manuscript to Italy, when he returned home in 1605; and its being discovered in Florence by Mr. Everett could be accounted for in that manner.

We now come to the codex preserved in Genoa, the vicissitudes of which have been already described in the preceding pages, as far as known. Not having it before our eyes just at present, we borrow Father Spotorno's description, having had occasion several times to ascertain its exactitude:

"The manuscript is on parchment, in a small folio volume, bound in Spanish leather, with two silver ornaments on the sides, and inclosed in a Spanish leather bag, which had originally a silver lock, but it has been taken off, leaving only a mark on the place to which it had been fastened.

At the beginning of the manuscript is an original letter of Philip II., King of Spain, to Ottaviano Oderico, Doge of Genoa.³

Then follows a leaf of parchment, on the back of which is a memorandum relative to Lorenzo Oderico, who, in 1669, or 1670, gave this manuscript to the Republic.⁴

Then comes the title, written in red and black letters, with arabesque ornaments:

CARTAS,
 PRIVILEGI⁸, CEDULAS
 Y OTRAS ESCRITURAS
 DE
 DON CHRISTOVAL COLON,
 ALMIRANTE MAYOR DEL MAR OCEANO,
 VISOREY Y GOVERNADOR
 DE LAS ISLAS Y TIERRA FIRME.

¹ Actually thirty-six. The Genoa Codex inadvertently omits the figures xxxii. in numbering.

² Thirty-fifth in the Paris Codex.

³ The letter of PHILIP II. has no connection whatever with the codex. It contains only congratulations addressed by the King to Ottaviano ODERICO on his being elected Doge of the Genoese Republic.

⁴ Here is the text of that memorandum, heretofore unpublished:

"Questo con l'altro simile Libro, che ambi contengono i privilegi concessi dal Rè Ferdi-

"This and the other similar book, both of which contain the privileges granted by King

nando di Spagna e Regina Isabella sua consorte a Cristoforo Colombo, furono donati alla Republica da Lorenzo Oderici, come da attestato e gracioso decreto accordatogli de Ser^{mi} Colleggi li 10. Genajo 1670, che vedesi annesso ad altro simile Decreto concesso al M^{co} Giovanni Paolo Oderico, figlio

Ferdinand of Spain and Queen Isabella his consort to Christopher Columbus, were presented to the Republic by Lorenzo Oderici, according to the certified and gracious decree accorded to him by the most serene Colleges on the 10th of January, 1670, which appears annexed to another similar decree granted to the Magnificent Giovanni Paolo

The writing is a species of Gothic. On the back of the title is the coat-of-arms of Christopher Columbus.

The next leaf contains the table of the documents contained in the manuscript.

Then begin the documents themselves, which occupy forty-two leaves, numbered only on one side. The initial letters are painted and ornamented; and the argument of each document is written in the margin in a beautiful miniature character. Strictly speaking, the MS. finishes at the end of the forty-second leaf (Document XXXVI.), where the subscriptions of the notaries and alcaldes of Seville are placed. . . . Then follows, on eight pages of parchment, the Bull of Pope Alexander VI. about the famous line of demarcation. Then follow eight other pages of documents, written after the first, and legalised in the usual form; and these are succeeded by five blank leaves.

Next comes a document in which Columbus comments upon his privileges and defends his rights; this occupies three pages, the fourth being blank. The piece which follows is of the same description; in this Columbus himself recapitulates methodically the articles of the convention which he made with the Catholic monarchs, on his setting out on his first expedition, and defends his rights with much warmth and force of reasoning. This occupies nine pages and part of a tenth.

After this comes Columbus's Letter to the Nurse of the Prince Don Juan, which fills ten pages.

On the last leaf is a memorandum of the different copies which had been made of the original privileges of Columbus; and this finishes the part of the MS. which is on parchment.

The two autograph letters of Columbus to his friend Nicolò Oderigo, written on paper, are pasted into the book; as is also the reply of the Magistrate of St. George to Columbus.¹

At the end of the whole, there is a pictorial sketch² on half a sheet of paper, symbolical of Columbus and his discovery."³

Jal, who examined the Genoa codex in 1834,⁴ says that "back of the frontispiece is to be seen the seal which Columbus used, when after his discovery of America he was made an Admiral."⁵ We do not recollect having seen that or any seal in the Genoa codex. Perhaps there was one affixed to one of his letters to Oderigo then inserted in the cartulary, and which may have since frittered away. It is certain that Columbus possessed a seal, which he frequently used. An impression on sealing wax has been lately discovered by the Duquesa de Alba in the archives of her family.⁶ Although very much injured by time, it can yet be reconstructed as follows:



del detto Lorenzo, di 29. Gennaro 1700, ambi infilzati nel Fogliaccio de' privilegi onorifici."

Oderico, son of the said Lorenzo, on the 29th of January, 1700, both of them filed in the collection of honorary privileges."

The text of the decree of 1670 mentioned in this memorandum is given in facsimile on page 274; for that of the year 1700, see *supra*, xvii.

¹ That letter was first made known by Girolamo BORDONI, in the edition of the *Historie* which he gave forth at Milan in 1614. It has been reprinted from the original text with a translation into English in our *Christopher Columbus and the Bank of St. George*, pages 7-11.

² There is not a shadow of evidence or probability that this sketch was ever drawn by Christopher COLUMBUS, as we see it so often stated,—*Christophe Colomb et ses historiens espagnols*, page 17. In our opinion it is simply a project for a fresco, or for a canvas painting,

perhaps a ceiling, prepared by some Italian artist of the end of the sixteenth century by order of Ottaviano ODERICO.

³ *Codice Diplomatico Colombo-Americano*, pages lxx-i; translation taken from the English edition of 1823, pages cxxxviii-cxli.

⁴ JAL, *De Paris à Naples*, Paris, 1836, 8vo, vol. i., page 257.

⁵ "Derrière le frontispice se trouve le cachet de Colomb, celui dont il se servit lorsqu'après la découverte de l'Amérique il eut obtenu les dignités d'amiral, de vice-roi et gouverneur des Indes." We have ascertained that there is no trace of such a seal in the Codex at the present time. A. JAL, *Le Triomphe de Christophe Colomb dessiné par lui-même*, in *La France Maritime*, by GREHAN, Paris, 1852, 8vo, vol. ii., page 264.

⁶ *Autógrafos de Cristóbal Colon y Papeles de América, los publica la Duquesa de BERWICK y de ALBA, Condesa de SIRUELA*, Madrid, 1892, folio, fronting page 39.

This monogram constitutes the well-known signature of Christopher Columbus, but without the words "XPO FERENS," and with the addition of a terrestrial globe, which is not mentioned anywhere. The exact meaning of these initials has not yet been ascertained; and although his successors are ordered in his will to use the same signature, he has failed to give the necessary explanation. The clause reads as follows:

"D. Diego, mi hijo, ó cualquier otro que heredare este mayorazgo, despues de haber heredado y estado en posesion de ello, firme de mi firma, la cual agora acostrumbro, que es una X con una S encima, y una M con una A romana encima, y encima della una S, y despues una Y griega, con una S encima con sus rayas y virgulas."¹

"Don Diego, my son, or any other who shall inherit this entail, after inheriting and coming into possession of the same, shall sign with my signature which I now make use of, which is an X with an S over it, and an M with a Roman A over it, and over that an S, and then a Greek Y, with an S over it, with its lines and commas."

According to Spotorno, these seven letters signify the words X^RI^ST^US, S^AN^CT^A M^AR^IA, Y^OS^EP^HU^S, and, added to the last line read: *Salva-me, Xristus, Maria, Yosephus.*

Other interpretations, however, have been proposed:

SERVVS
SVM ALTISSIMI SALVATORIS
X^RI^ST^E M^AR^IA Y^ES^V

*I AM THE SERVANT OF THE MOST
HIGH SAVIOUR.
O CHRIST, MARY, JESUS.*

SALVET ME
SALVATOR ADJVVET SVCCVRAT
X^RSTVS M^AR^IA Y^OSEPHVS

*THE SAVIOUR SHALL SAVE, HELP AND
SUCCOUR ME.
CHRIST, MARY, JOSEPH.*

SVM
SEQVAX AMATOR SERVVS
X^RISTI M^AR^IÆ Y^OSEPHI

*I AM THE FOLLOWER, LOVER,
SERVANT, OF CHRIST, OF
MARY, OF JOSEPH.*

SARACENOS
SVBIGAT AVERTAT SVBMOVEAT
X^RSTVS M^AR^IA Y^OSEPHVS.

*HE SHALL SUBJUGATE, TURN AWAY,
REMOVE THE SARACENS.
CHRIST, MARY, JOSEPH.*

The letters, indeed, lend themselves to a multitude of combinations, but what Columbus really meant cannot at the present day be confidently affirmed.

As to the two autograph letters to Oderigo, both of which bear the above described signature, they are no longer pasted into the book.² The Syndic of Genoa ordered them, some years ago, to be taken out, and inserted each separately, between two panes of glass, and framed.

There is no necessity for describing the Paris codex, as a facsimile of it is presented herewith, complete, and taken direct from the original, recently on exhibition (on the occasion of the fourth centenary of the discovery of America), in the Geographical Department of the Paris National Library. The only additional details of interest are that each leaf measures 29 by 20 centimeters; that the vellum is particularly fresh, with some blank membranes

¹ NAVARRETE, vol. ii., Doc. CXXVI., page 229.

² The two letters to NICOLÒ ODERIGO are described, *infra*, page lxiii.

between the fifty-fourth and the sixty-second leaves, as if Columbus intended to insert other documents; and that the original binding has been torn away, since 1848, and replaced by a very common one, in dark green morocco, bearing on the recto of the first side, within a circle, the inscription: *R. F. Liberté, Egalité, Fraternité. Archives des Affaires Etrangères.*

As we had occasion to state when we first made known and described in detail the Paris codex, in 1884,¹ there are between the two codices many differences in the spelling and abbreviations. The Paris codex is somewhat more complete. Its text of the Letter to the Nurse, for instance, contains in addition the following sentence:

“Digo que la fuerça del mardesyr de desconçertados me ha mas dañado que mis serviçios fecho provecho, mal exemplo es por el presente y por lo futuro. Fago juramento que cantidad de onbres han ydo a las Yndias que non meresçian el agua para con Dios y con el mundo, y agora buelven alla, y se les consiente.”

“*I assert that the violence of the calumny of turbulent persons has injured me more than my services have profited me; which is a bad example for the present and for the future. I take my oath that a number of men have gone to the Indies who did not deserve water in the sight of God and of the world; and now they are returning thither, and leave is granted them.*”²

Christopher Columbus frequently added to his printed books and manuscripts certain marks to call attention. They consist chiefly of a double cross, a sort of omega, small circles with a bar, resembling the head of a screw, a pair of waved lines, and a hand with extended finger generally pointing to the right of the reader.³ The latter sign is the most frequent, presenting great variety, especially in the shape of the cuff around the wrist; sometimes the forearm is added.

There are two such maniform signs in the Paris codex, and one in that of Genoa. The sign in the latter is on the verso of the third leaf, facing the following words:

“E tengo por bien que todas las ganancias que el dicho mi Almirante mayor oviere o fisiere en la mi flota, o por la mar, que aya Yo las doss partes, e el dicho Almirante la terçia parte, e yendo el por su cuerpo mesmo en la dicha flota, aunque la dicha flota o parte della se aparte por su mando, o syn su mandado.”

“*And I ordain that of all the gains which my said High Admiral may receive or make in my fleet or at sea, I shall receive two parts and the said Admiral the third part, he going in his own person in the said fleet, even though the said fleet or part thereof may go away by his order or without his order.*”

This refers to Columbus's claim of one-third of the gains, which he believed to apply to all lands which he, and the navigators who came after him, might discover. For further information, we beg to refer the reader to our analysis of the forty-third document in the Paris cartulary.⁴

The first maniform sign in the Paris codex is in red ink on the verso of the forty-fourth leaf (p. 184), in the Papal Bull of May 4th, 1493, opposite the following sentence addressed to Ferdinand and Isabella (we quote from the amended text):

¹ *Christophe Colomb*, vol. i., pages 20-22.

² *Infra*, page 254.

³ For some of these marks, see, in the *Notes on Columbus*, fronting pages 84 and 215, photographic facsimiles taken from COLUMBUS's own

annotated copies of the *Imagine Mundi* of Pierre D'Ailly, and of the *Historia rerum ubique gestarum* of ÆNEAS SYLVIVS PICCOLOMINI, Venice, 1477, folio.

⁴ *Infra*, pages lx and lxi.

"dilectum filium Christofo-
rum Colon virum utique dignum et pluri-
mum commendandum ac tanto negotio
aptum cum navigiis et hominibus ad
similia instructis . . . destinastis."

*"You appointed [our] beloved son
Christopher Columbus, a man particu-
larly worthy and much to be commended,
and well suited to so great an under-
taking, with vessels and men equipped
for such purposes, . . ."*

This sentence is not in the first Papal Bull of May 3rd, 1493.

The second sign is on the recto of the fifty-third leaf (p. 211), in the letter addressed to Columbus by Ferdinand and Isabella, March 14th, 1502, and opposite the following important sentence :

"Y tened por çierto, que de vuestra
prision nos peso mucho, y bien lo
vistes vos y lo conosçieron todos
claramente."

*"And rest assured that we were much
distressed about your imprisonment, and
you yourself perceived it clearly, and it
was well known to all."*

This, let it be said, is the only allusion to the shameful treatment inflicted on Columbus by Bobadilla which we could find in documents emanating either from Ferdinand or Isabella at any time.

On the verso of the sixty-fifth leaf (p. 228) there is in the margin of the Paris codex, only, this exclamation, in some unknown handwriting of the time :

"Mira que dice que gano las Indias
contra la opinion de todo el mundo."

*"Observe that he says he gained the
Indies contrary to the opinion of the
whole world."*

That marginal note is in a legal opinion concerning Columbus's rights and privileges, opposite the passage :

"La razon es por que Sus Altezas
yslas e tierra firme le mandaron ganar,
y dellas señalada mente le titularon
Almirante, y dellas, y enellas deve
aver el galardon como quien es Almi-
rante dellas y con mucho peligro con-
tra la opinyon de todo el mundo las
gano."

*"The reason is, because their High-
nesses commanded him to gain islands
and mainland, and thereof especially
they designated him Admiral, and from
them and in them he ought to have his
reward, as one who is Admiral thereof,
and who gained them, at much risk, con-
trary to the opinion of the whole world."*

The date of the legalisation of the Papal Bull, on the verso of the forty-seventh leaf (p. 196), has been tampered with in the Paris codex, apparently with the intention of making it agree with the Genoa codex, which reads thus : "Jueves treynta dias del mes de disiembre año de mill e quj[ni]entos e dos años :—Thursday, December 30th, 1502." In the Paris codex, part of the date is written over a very careful erasure, which is of course not apparent in the facsimile. In any case, the word "dos" is a slip of the pen on the part of the scribe, who, writing in 1502, and recollecting the date of the authentications at the beginning of the codex, thought that the Papal Bull had been authenticated at the same time. Instead of "dos" there should be "uno," not only because the complete codex was already in the hands of Ribarol in the spring of 1502, but because in the year 1502 the 30th day of December happened on a Friday, whilst in 1501 it was on a Thursday, which is the day of the week set forth in both codices.

If the Paris Codex contains passages not to be found in the Genoese one, it yet omits an important declaration which is found there. We refer to the statement, which we have frequently quoted from the Genoese Codex as the "Notarial Certificate," describing the copies, which, by the order of Christopher Columbus, were made of his Book of Privileges in 1502. It is as follows :—

“ Los originales destos previlegios y cartas y cédulas y otras muchas cartas de Sus Altezas e otras escripturas tocantes al Señor Almirante, estan en el Monasterio de Sancta Maria de las Cuevas de Sevilla.

Otrosy esta en el dicho Monasterio un libro traslado de los privilegios e cartas susodichos, semejante que esto.

Otro traslado levo este año de M.D.II. y tiene Alonso Sanchez de Carvajal a las Yndias escripto en papel e abtorizado.

Otro traslado en pergamino tal como este.”

“ The originals of these privileges, patents, warrants and many other letters of their Highnesses, and other writings, respecting the Lord Admiral, are in the Monastery of Santa Maria de las Cuevas, at Seville.

Also in the said Monastery is a book of transcripts of the aforesaid privileges and letters, similar to this.

Another transcript was made this year, 1502, and Alonzo Sanchez de Carvajal has it, in the Indies, written on paper and legalised.

Another copy on parchment the same as this.”

It may be mentioned, however, that at the end of the Paris Codex there is a leaf of vellum bearing the original folio number Lxxvi, but otherwise blank, probably intended to contain this declaration.



CHAPTER V.

The coat of arms which is emblazoned in the original Paris and Genoa Cartularies.



OTH in the Paris and Genoa codices, there is a large emblazoned coat of arms, which requires to be explained.

On the 20th of May, 1493, as an additional reward for his having discovered the New World, Ferdinand and Isabella granted arms to Christopher Columbus and his descendants.

By the terms of the letters patent, these arms were to bear in the first quarter, a castle *or* on *sinople*; in the third quarter, field argent with lion *purpure* langued *sinople*; in the second quarter, sea waves with islands *or*; in the fourth quarter, the original arms which Columbus was supposed to possess already. Here is the text itself:

“El Castillo de color dorado en campo verde, en el cuadro del escudo de vuestras armas en lo alto á la mano derecha, y en el otro cuadro alto á la mano izquierda un Leon de purpura en campo blanco rampando [*sic*] de verde, y en el otro cuadro bajo á la mano derecha unas islas doradas en ondas de mar, y en el otro cuadro bajo á la mano izquierda las armas vuestras que soliades tener.”

“*The castle of gilded colour in a green field, in the quarter of the shield of your arms, on the top to the right hand, and in the other top quarter to the left hand a lion purpure in a white field rampant [langued] green, and in the other quarter at the bottom on the right hand, gilded islands in sea waves, and in the other quarter at the bottom on the left hand the arms which you have been wont to bear.*”¹

The most ancient graphic representation which we have of the arms of Christopher Columbus is this frontispiece in the original codices.

As already stated, this coat of arms was drawn and coloured by order of Christopher Columbus, during his stay at Seville, in 1502. It is painted in water-body colours, on vellum, twenty centimeters wide by twenty-nine high. The design is commonplace, but the colours are still very bright. The page containing the escutcheon is edged with twisted cord in green and red.

The arms are not conformable to the wording of the letters patent before mentioned, and the modifications which they show were introduced by Christopher Columbus on his own authority. These modifications will be more readily seen by comparison with the coloured representation given as the frontispiece to this volume.

If their Catholic Majesties authorized the great navigator to add a castle

¹ NAVARRETE, vol. ii., Document XX., page 37. It appears to us that the word *rampando* should be followed by a comma, besides another word corresponding to *lampasado*; because *rampando de verde* has no heraldic sense, and the adjective *verde* refers doubtless to a certain part of the

animal. Moreover, OVIEDO says, *la lengua sacada*, which corresponds to the English word *langued*, that is, the tongue protruding from the mouth, and of a different colour from that of the body. In this case, a green tongue.

and a lion to the coat of arms which, out of politeness, they recognised as his, they did not permit him, as is generally believed, following Oviedo¹ and Las Casas,² to quarter the exact arms of Castile and Leon.

In heraldic science there can be no "nearly." It is entirely one thing or the other, and the least difference in a charge, in an enamel, or in a colour, is sufficient to establish a fundamental distinction between two coats of arms. Now, if it is possible that at the end of the fifteenth century, the lion in the arms of Spain, instead of being *gules*, as it is constantly represented, was on the contrary *purpure*, or violet,³ no one doubts that in the royal coat of arms the first quarter is, and always has been, *gules* with a castle *or*,⁴ surmounted by three towers likewise *or*, in masonry, and voided *azure*. Columbus, by the terms of the letters patent, was to have his first quarter *sinople* with a castle *or*; the other, *argent* with lion *purpure*, langued *sinople*. Nevertheless, Columbus quartered the enamels of the royal coat of arms; that is to say, instead of placing the castle on a green field, he put it on red; and the lion, which should be purple, is brown, and without the animal's tongue being tinted green. These illegitimate colours make this part of the coat of arms identical with the corresponding part of the royal arms, which was certainly not the intention of Ferdinand and Isabella.

These are not the only changes which Columbus took upon himself to introduce into the coat of arms granted to him in 1493. In the second quarter, for example, there are not islands *or* alone. It also contains a continent emerging. An addition of this sort can hardly have been made until after the year 1500, on the return from the voyage in which Columbus discovered the country of Paria; unless that mainland was meant for Cuba, which at first he thought to be identical with Cathay or Asia.

Finally, we observe in a supplementary quarter, *azure* with five anchors *or* lying flat, and placed two, one, and two. Oviedo⁵ says that these anchors were the sign of the Admirals of the Indies, an office which was placed on the same footing with the Admirals of Castile. We note, however, that in the documents relative to the prerogatives of the Admiral of Castile, of which an authenticated copy was given to Columbus, by order of their Catholic Majesties, in 1497, no mention is made of arms of dignities, interior or exterior.⁶

The coat of arms ends at the point by a division containing the charges and enamels which, according to Columbus, constituted the arms of his ancestors.

This was his right. The letters patent state that power is given to him to insert "on the sinister side, the arms which he was wont to bear." These latter, in the escutcheon in question, are *or with bend azure and chief gules*.

¹ "Le dieron las mismas armas reales de Castilla y de Leon:—They gave him the actual royal arms of Castile and Leon." OVIEDO, *Historia General de las Indias*, book i., cap. vii., vol. i., page 30.

² "Dieronle muy hermosas armas, de las mismas armas reales, castillos y leones:—They gave him very handsome arms, from the actual royal arms, castles and lions." LAS CASAS, *Historia General de las Indias*, lib. i., cap. lxxx., vol. i., page 489.

³ The King-at-arms of FERDINAND of Aragon always coloured them thus: "En los [?] baxo un leon morado en campo blanco:—In the [?], under [?], a violet lion in a white field." *Blason de Armas abreviado por Garci Alonso de Torres, Rey de Armas, llamado Aragon, del Señor Rey Don Fernando el 5º*. MSS. of the Paris National Library, *Espagnol*, No. 483, ex-347, leaf 97, verso, and 101, recto.

⁴ "Un castillo amarillo en campo colorado . . . dos castillos de oro en campo colorado, é las puertas y ventanas de los castillos azules:—A golden castle in coloured field . . . two castles in gold in coloured field and the doors and windows of the castle blue." TORRES, *ibidem*.

⁵ "Cinco áncoras de oro en campo azul, como insignia apropiada al mismo officio é título de almirante perpetuo destas Indias:—Five golden anchors in a blue field, as the insignia appropriate to the office and title of perpetual Admiral of these Indies." OVIEDO, *ubi supra*. In most of the representations of COLUMBUS's coat of arms, notably in the escutcheon sculptured on the front door of the residence of his descendant, the Duke of VERAGUA, in Madrid, these anchors are *in pale*, which is an error.

⁶ NAVARRETE, vol. i., Appendix, Documents 1-6, pages 375-396.

We have explained elsewhere¹ the reasons which militate against the aristocratic pretensions of Christopher Columbus. It has nevertheless appeared to us necessary to consult, and we have examined with the greatest care, the numerous nobiliaries, manuscript and in print, which are found in the public libraries, and in the heraldic colleges, not only of Genoa, but of the whole of Italy. Such a coat of arms is nowhere in existence, and no known arms, whether in Italy, Spain, Portugal or elsewhere, at all resemble it.

After the escutcheon serving as frontispiece for the Paris and Genoa codices, and which we have just described, the most ancient heraldic representation, and that which has served as a type for most of the Columbus coats of arms, is the wood engraving inserted in the *Historia General de las Indias* of Oviedo, printed at Seville in 1535.²

The shield and the charges are conformable to the escutcheon in the two cartularies, but we observe in addition, in the vignette, some exterior ornaments. These consist of a helmet in profile; on the helmet, a globe surmounted by a cross, and a mantle of acanthus leaves. The enamels are only mentioned in the detailed and strictly heraldic description given by Oviedo, who was very expert in these matters. However, we observe, in his explanation, details which do not agree with the wording of the letters patent, a wording against which nothing can prevail, since it is authentic and complete. Thus, according to Oviedo, the first quarter, instead of being *sinople*, is *gules*: "en campo de goles ó sanguino:—on a field *gules* or *red*"; the islands are dotted with gold, but tinted very perceptibly with *sinople*: "muy verdes:—very green." In addition to the islands, he indicates a continent: "tierra continuada:—a continuous tract of land," and, if the lion is purple and langued, it bears a golden crown.³

When we add to these divergences the addition of the motto (to which we shall return), the helmet and the mantle, marks of honour which the letters patent pass over in silence, but which Oviedo carefully details, we are convinced that the zealous historiographer wrote his description, not from authentic documents, but by drawing his inspiration exclusively from a coat of arms which was not even the one of which the family boasted, and without endeavouring to verify its composition.

Neither was Las Casas acquainted with the letters patent of the 20th May, 1493; otherwise he would not have said that the castle was on a field *gules*, and the lion *or* on a field *argent* (metal on metal!).⁴

There is, in the *Memorial del Pleyto*,⁵ an entire chapter devoted to the alleged original arms of the Colombi. It is in the documentary proofs and claim of Francisca Colon, wife of the licentiate Ortegon, and ancestor of the present holder of what is left of the titles and dignities conferred on Columbus. Justly opposing the pretensions of Baldassare Colombo, the valiant heiress denied that the escutcheon brought from Cuccaro was that of the ancestors of Christopher Columbus, but she only furnished, as a proof, the description given by Oviedo.

This persevering, but very poor woman, the mother of a numerous family, and legitimate great grand-daughter of Christopher Columbus, struggled energetically against the intruder, who had come from Italy to contend with her for a magnificent inheritance. She reproached Baldassare with not bearing

¹ *Christophe Colomb, son origine, sa vie, ses voyages, &c.*, vol. i., pages 160-165.

² OVIEDO, *Historia General de las Indias*, book ii., cap. vii., leaf x recto, of the original edition, and plate i., page 31, of vol. i. of the Madrid edition of 1851.

³ In the frontispiece of the cartularies, the lion does not bear a crown. This is also the case

with all the Spanish royal coats of arms of the fifteenth and beginning of the sixteenth centuries which we have examined.

⁴ "Y un leon en campo blanco, el cual leon está dorado:—And a lion in a white field, which lion is gilded." LAS CASAS, *ubi supra*.

⁵ *Memorial del Pleyto*, Nos. 1289 to 1297, leaf 194. See *Christophe Colomb*, vol. i., page 51.

or with a bend azure on a chief gules, an escutcheon which, on the authority of their Catholic Majesties, Columbus had intercalated in his new arms, as being the arms of his ancestors. Baldassare indeed produced simply a coat of arms azure with three doves argent.

Brazening the matter out, he replied to her that the house of the Cuccaro Colombi, six hundred and forty years old, may have had offshoots who adopted arms different from those of their ancestors. "Some," said he, "bear azure with two doves argent, with bends of that metal and a cross sinople; others a single dove, perched on a mountain, with three bends gules and or; others have three bends, two or and one gules; others, like himself, Baldassare, bear azure with three doves argent, a helmet surmounted by the emblem of justice, and the motto *Fides, Spes, Charitas*.¹

And in support of his assertion that these latter arms were also those of Christopher Columbus, even after his arrival in Spain, the Ligurian claimant produced a certificate by Diego de Urbina, King-at-arms, delivered the 3rd of April, 1591, by which the chief of the heralds declares to have found in an ancient book of genealogies drawn up by Garci Alonso de Torres,² King-at-arms of Ferdinand of Aragon, a chapter entitled: "*Los que se dicen de Colon, traen de azul con una paloma de plata*:"—Those called Columbus bear azure with a dove argent."

Doña Francisca retorted, and with reason, that Diego de Urbina had only considered the ancient Colons of Spain, that is, those of Valencia and Aragon, who, absolutely strangers to her family, were called, in reality, "Coloma." Baldassare replied by a fresh certificate from Urbina, declaring that the Colomas of Aragon and Valencia bore gules with a dove argent. This unimportant argument only proves that the Colombi of Cuccaro and the Columbus of Spain, like all the Columbuses, Colons, and Colombi of Europe,³ nobles, or claiming to be such, had allusive arms.

Besides, is it probable that Columbus would have furnished the royal herald-at-arms, for insertion in his new coat of arms, with this bend azure on a chief gules, which is nowhere to be found, if he, the alleged legitimate descendant of the lords of Cuccaro, Conzano, and Rosignano, whose nobility was lost in the night of time, had possessed the right of bearing their arms?

This discussion shows that all the Colombi of Italy, with claims to nobility, had arms of which the distinctive sign was a dove. The Colombi of Piacenza, for example, that very family whom historians persist, without any proofs whatever, in regarding as the stock out of which Christopher Columbus came, bore azure with three mountains sinople, on the second of which was a dove argent.

This fact is clear from a diploma from Matthias, Emperor of Germany, dated 27th May, 1615, confirming and amplifying the ancient arms of a certain Antonio Colombo, of Piacenza, in which the following phrase is observed:

"Porrò de eadem Nostra auctoritate, antiqua armorum suorum insignia non

"Moreover by Our same authority, we not only ratify and confirm the

¹ *Memorial del Pleyto*, No. 1291.

² The MS. of TORRES in the National Library at Paris is incomplete. That of the National Library at Madrid, entitled *Libro de Linajes de España con otras cosas* (K. 52), contains on this subject only the three lines quoted by BALDASSARE, and without Christopher COLUMBUS being mentioned.

³ See the voluminous *Armorial General*, MS. of the National Library in Paris: *Provence*, vol. i., pages 481, No. 511; 690, No. 704; 798, No. 1150; *Lyons*, pages 320, No. 70; 331, No.

89; 850, No. 122; 513, No. 238; *Toulouse*, pages 12, No. 69; 1051, No. 78; 1064, No. 162; 970, No. 409, and nearly all the "Généralités" of France and Navarre. All these COLUMBUSES, COLOMBES, COLOMS and COLOMBI bear one or several doves in their arms. There is even one, Jean COLUMBUS, a barrister at Digne in 1697, who boldly appropriates to himself the exact arms of Castile and Leon, together with the azure sea and the five golden islands, pretty much as their Catholic Majesties had conceded them to Christopher COLUMBUS.

solum ratificamus, et confirmamus, sed etiam augemus, et exornamus, et quatenus opus est de novo in hunc, qui sequitur, modum post hac deferenda gratiosè illi, suiq. concedimus et elargimur.”¹

ancient insignia of his arms, but we also augment and embellish them, and in as far as it is needful we graciously concede and grant anew to him and to his in this manner following the arms which they are henceforth to bear.”

This diploma does not describe the ancient arms, but since it “ratifies and confirms them,” they are necessarily comprised in the shield which includes the original arms as well as the new ones; a shield which is described in these terms:

“Scutum azureum, seu ceruleum, è cuius basi ad medietatem usque tres montes viridis coloris, medio illorum aliquid altiore; in summitate verò montis medii Columba alba ramusculum olivæ rostro continens; scuto incumbat humanum caput.”²

“Shield azure or blue, from the base thereof up to the middle three mountains of green colour, the central one somewhat higher than the others; and on the summit of the central mountain a white Dove bearing in its beak a slip of olive; a human head reclines upon the shield.”

It is incontestable, moreover, that in none of the arms attributed to the Colombi of Piacenza³ do we find arms *or*, with bend azure on a chief gules. It is also certain that all the patricians of that name, in Italy, bore a dove, lapwing, or ringdove on their arms. The great Genoese navigator, then, would have been the only noble, amongst the Colombi, presenting the anomaly of possessing a coat of arms of which the principal piece did not express the name of the family to which it belonged, although homonymy as much as the traditions and taste of the period favoured the inclusion of a dove.

This is only a secondary induction, we admit; but when we add thereto the fact that the coat of arms given by Columbus as his own is absolutely unknown; that we are able to trace the filiation of the great navigator back to at least the fourteenth century, without ever connecting him, in spite of the existence of a mass of documents, with any of the patrician families of the name of Colombo; that a nobleman could hardly leave his caste, whatever his poverty and his misfortunes might be; and finally, that the father, brothers, uncles, and cousins of Christopher Columbus, as well as himself, worked at a trade which none could exercise without derogating from nobility, it is difficult not to see in the arms of which the great Genoese boasted abroad, and in consequence of quite exceptional circumstances, a mere concession to the notions of the period, and to the exigencies of his new position.

No; Christopher Columbus was not of patrician origin, and when their Catholic Majesties granted him arms with the privilege of inserting therein the blazon of his ancestors, by the phrase “las armas vuestras que soliades tener:—The arms you have been wont to bear,” those monarchs only made use of a sort of technical expression, regardless of its positive bearing. Columbus interpreted the words in a sense favourable to his new condition, and adapted to the surroundings in which he was henceforth to pass his life. He then composed, as is shown in the codices, we do not know with what materials, that escutcheon with the bend azure on a chief gules, which nobody before him had possessed, at any time or anywhere.

¹ CAMPI, *Historia Ecclesiastica di Piacenza*, Piacenza, 1651-1672, 3 vols. folio, vol. iii., page 235.

² This description corresponds likewise to the shield of the old nobiliary, called “the Passerini,” preserved in the Piacenza library, and which Count Giuseppe NASALI was good enough to consult for us in 1883.

³ Thus, there is still in the town of Piacenza an old house which once belonged to the COLOMBI of that town. Over the principal door can be distinguished an escutcheon sculptured in the stone. In the first quarter is cut a dove in full flight; in the second, a chevron with two doves *affrontee*.

CHAPTER VI.

No heraldic motto in the Paris and Genoa Cartularies.



THE reader was doubtless struck with the omission, in the coat of arms which Christopher Columbus caused to be added to these cartularies, of a certain heraldic device which accompanies the escutcheon in all its representations except the present.

It behoves us therefore to speak of this motto, written it is not known when, nor by whom, but consecrated by time and become inseparable from the name of Christopher Columbus and his arms.

The wording has come down to us in two or three forms, equally fine. The first is thus expressed :¹

*POR CASTILLA É POR LEON
NUEVO MUNDO HALLÓ COLON.*

That is to say : "For Castile and Leon, Columbus *found* a new world."

The other form marks an important modification :

*A CASTILLA Y Á LEON
NUEVO MUNDO DIÓ COLON.*

The reader will observe that in this case the motto does not only say that Columbus found a new world for the sovereign of Castile and Leon (Isabella), but that he *gave* it to her.

We have searched in vain in the archives of the Spanish Peninsula to get at the source of this fine sentiment.

In Spain, mottoes, extremely rare as they were in the fifteenth century, especially amongst the Castilians, were placed within the shield and blazoned as a charge, as may be seen by that of the Ibarollas (1365), Acedos (1378), Mendozas (before 1398), Anduagas y Espinosa (1462), &c. The practice was even continued, for we find the escutcheon of the Pascuales, dated in 1540, sporting the device inside.²

In the usual Columbus coat of arms it is inscribed on a banderole outside the shield.³ If this motto had been given by their Catholic Majesties, in 1493, it would certainly figure in the letters patent granting arms to Christopher Columbus, for we have the integral and authentic text of that document.

¹ *Por* may have here the meaning of "for," which it has sometimes in Spanish, and thus convey the sense of *para*, above given. But we are constrained to say that *por* also permits the rendering, "By Castile and by Leon," that is, "thanks to Castile and to Leon," which, we confess, is less flattering. It should be likewise noted that the motto constitutes two verses of seven syllables each (owing to the synalephas : *Castilla é*, and *y á*). In the first form, the second verse would be lame, on account of its

containing a syllable too much ; for at the time when OVIEDO wrote (1535) the *h* in *halló* was aspirated, and never elided.

² Garcí Alonso DE TORRES, *loc. cit.*, leaf 6 ; Ambrosio DE SALAZAR, *Libro de Armas*, Paris, 1642, 4to, page 35, and the *Nobiliario* of PIFERRER.

³ According to OVIEDO, the motto was "por defuera del escudo en un rótulo blanco, con unas letras de sable :—outside the shield on a white label, with sable (or black) letters."

There is no mention of a motto therein. Lastly, if Columbus owed the device to the sovereigns, its terms are too flattering for him not to have made use of it. Now, as we have just stated, the motto does not figure in either of the two coats of arms drawn by his order, under his eyes, at Seville, in 1502, and which accompany the cartularies which he sent to the ambassador of Genoa, to perpetuate the proof of his rights.

Neither Peter Martyr, who was quite a man of letters, particularly of the Italian type, and whose attention would have been attracted therefore by this ingenious *concelto*, nor Las Casas, nor Geraldini, nor Bernaldez speak of it. The first one who mentions the motto is Oviedo, in his *Historia General de las Indias*,¹ which he wrote only a couple of years before 1535. He is the earliest author who gives it, and in the first form indicated by us, in a heraldic description which was not borrowed from authentic documents, but from a coat of arms then doubtless current, without being nevertheless very exact.

The second time the motto appears is in the *Historie* attributed to Fernando Columbus, written at the earliest in 1537, and printed in 1571. There it is given in the other form, the one which has prevailed to this day.

The motto, in the form adopted by the *Historie*, surrounds the escutcheon sculptured on the tombstone of Fernando Columbus in the cathedral of Seville. As the latter died in 1539, we have here a rather old wording, although subsequent by four years to that of Oviedo. Unfortunately, the pavement of the cathedral has been repeatedly renewed since that time. We have frequently and in vain surveyed the lanes which lead to Sierpes, lanes paved at the beginning of the century (according to tradition) with the worn-out tombstones of the cathedral. We hoped to discover traces of that of Don Fernando. The tombstone which now exists, must, however, be an exact copy of the old one, for it corresponds to the description which is to be read in Fernando's will,² but it would be useful to compare it with "el escudo que debia grabarse en la losa:—the shield that was to be cut in the pavement," which is found in the manuscript copy of the will preserved in the archives of the chapter of the Seville Cathedral.

Pedro de Medina, in his *Cronica de los Duques de Medina Sidonia*, a chronicle dated 1561, and consequently anterior by ten years to the publication of the *Historie*, says: "Los Reyes Catolicos le hicieron grandes mercedes, y le mandaron dar un escudo de armas con una letra que dice: Mundo nuevo dió Colon á Castilla y á Leon."³—Their Catholic Majesties gave him great thanks, and ordered a shield of arms to be given to him with a motto saying: Columbus gave a new world to Castile and Leon." The word *dió* instead of *halló* indicates a source in the direction of the tombstone of Fernando Columbus.

Finally, the monk Juan de Victoria, who wrote, in Mexico, so late as 1574, is reported to state in his yet unpublished work, *De los Reyes Católicos*, that the device was as follows:

POR CASTILLA Y POR LEON
NVEVO MVNDO GANÓ COLON.

or, "For Castile and for Leon, Columbus *won* a new world."⁴

Strangely enough, however, in the *Historie* it is no longer a motto, but a

¹ OVIEDO, lib. ii., cap. vii., fo. x verso, original edition; vol. i., page 31, edition of 1851.

² Our *Don Fernando Colon, historiador de su padre, Ensayo crítico*, pages 125 and 157.

³ *Coleccion de documentos ineditos para la historia de España*, vol. xxxix., page 295.

⁴ With regard to the assertion that "sulla sua tomba e sotto il suo stemma gentilizio di tre Colombi d'argento in campo d'azzurro con quattro ancore

di oro . . . d'ordine del Re Ferdinando fu posta la seguente iscrizione:—on his tomb and under his coat of arms of three doves of silver in a blue field with four anchors of gold . . . by order of King Ferdinand was placed the following inscription,"—*Patria e biografia del grande Ammiraglio D. Cristoforo Colombo de' Conti*, Roma, 1853, 8vo, page 408—it is a pure invention.

simple *epitaph*,¹ which King Ferdinand of Aragon is said to have had placed in the cathedral of Seville² at the time of the obsequies of Christopher Columbus; consequently three years after the death of the great navigator. It would not, then, be Columbus himself, as the inaccurate historian Lopez de Gomara pretends,³ who added this motto to his coat of arms.

Therefore, in the face of these contradictions and the little authenticity in the information furnished by the chronicles, we are inclined to believe, contrary to the generally received opinion, that the motto was not a gift of their Catholic Majesties; that it was not contemporaneous with the arms granted to Columbus; that he never even knew of it; and, however true and fine, that it is entirely apocryphal.

¹ "Per ordine del Re Catolico fu messo a perpetua memoria de' suoi memorabili fatti, et scoprimenti delle Indie vno Epitafio in lingua Spagnuola:—By order of the Catholic King there was put in perpetual memory of his memorable deeds and discoveries of the Indies an epitaph in the Spanish language." *Historie*, edition of 1571, leaf 247, recto. See our *Fernand Colomb*, page 147, and *Bulletin de la Société de Géographie de Paris*, for November, 1874, pages 498-501.

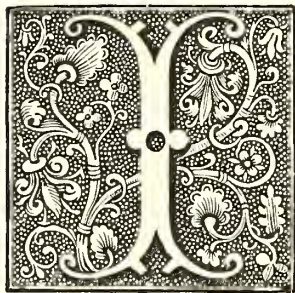
² "Il suo corpo fu poi condotto a Siuiglia, & quiui nella Chiesa maggiore di quella Città fu sepolto con funebre pompa." *Historie*, leaf 247, recto.

³ "Puso Cristóbal Colon, al rededor del escudo de armas que le concedieron, esta letra:—Christopher Columbus put, around the shield of arms granted to him, this motto." Francisco LOPEZ DE GOMARA, *Historia de las Indias*, VEDIA'S edition, Madrid, 1858, vol. i., page 167.



CHAPTER VII.

Description of the Documents comprised in the Paris Cartulary.



It remains now to give a succinct analysis of the documents themselves.

DOCUMENT I. Pages 10-37.

A letter from Ferdinand and Isabella, dated April 23, 1497,¹ directing Ferdinand de Soria to remit to Christopher Columbus an authenticated copy of the letters patent and privileges relative to the charge of High Admiral of Castile. The letter is followed by the required authenticated copy.

The reason why this document occupies such a prominent place in the Codex is that, according to the Capitulations of April 17, 1492, Columbus was appointed High Admiral of the Indies, and this office was placed on the same footing as the High Admiralty of Castile,² with power to transmit the same to his descendants and heirs for ever. In fact, the present holder of the titles granted to Columbus still enjoys that honorary distinction.

But for the first grantee the office was of capital importance, as it entitled him to one third of all the gains arising from every maritime expedition carried out by anyone whomsoever within his admiralty, and to possess original jurisdiction, civil and criminal, over its entire extent.

These two rights, which Columbus seems to have valued above all others, were constantly denied to him; but he never ceased to claim them.³

* * * These documents were also published by Navarrete, from the authenticated copy preserved in the archives of the Duke of Veragua.⁴ Columbus here omits the privileges, not less important, of June 10, 1416, September 4, 1440, January 28, 1429, February 22, 1399, March 6, 1411, June 10, 1426, January 24, 1429, copies of which were also remitted to him, by order of Ferdinand and Isabella.

DOCUMENT II. Pages 37-49.

This consists of the famous Capitulations or Articles of April 17, 1492, but recited only in a confirmation of the same, granted by Ferdinand and Isabella, at Burgos, April 23, 1497, and preceded by a preamble, containing the expression of noble sentiments, to which we refer the reader.⁵

* * * This is the document, a copy of which, printed at the time, was lately discovered by the Duchess of Alba in the archives of her family, and the first page of which has been reproduced in facsimile in her valuable *Autógrafos*. Thanks to the kindness of our friend Don M. R. Zarco del Valle, we are enabled to give here a minute bibliographical description of that important Americanum, which, thus far, stands unique.

It is a folio, printed in middle size black-letter, of four unnumbered leaves, or eight pages, the first four of which contain 45 lines, the fifth only eight lines, and the rest of

¹ "Noventa e siete años," and not "noventa e siex," as is printed in SPOTORNO's *Codice*, page 10.

² NAVARRETE, Doc. V., vol. ii., page 7, and Doc. VI., page 9.

³ *Infra*, Docs. XLII. and XLIII., and Duchess of ALBA, *Autógrafos*, pages 17 and 23.

⁴ NAVARRETE, vol. i., pages 355-370.

⁵ *Infra*, pages 37-41.

the page as well as the three remaining pages are absolutely blank. There is no separate title, nor date, nor printer's mark or name, nor place of printing. The first page commences on top, with the following lines:

Este es traslado bien y fielmente sacado de vna carta de priuilegio delos ca-||tolicos reyes don Fernando y doña Ysabel de gloriosa memoria: escrito en || pergamino de cuero & firmado de sus reales nombres & librado & firmado delos || del su muy alto consejo & sellado con su real sello de plomo pendiente en filos de || seda a colores segun que enellos se contiene: su tenor del qual es q[ue] se sigue.||

This is a copy well and faithfully taken from a patent of privilege of the Catholic Sovereigns, Don Ferdinand and Donna Isabella of glorious memory: written on parchment of skin and signed with their royal names, and delivered and signed by those of their high council, and sealed with their royal seal of lead suspended by threads of coloured silk according to what is therein contained: the tenor whereof is as follows.

The text immediately follows, beginning with an ornamented E, of 20 millimeters, representing a tree surrounded with acanthus leaves. There are two signatures, viz., I and 7. In the third leaf there is a water mark, viz., a hand extended, with a wrist and three-pointed cuff; the middle finger bears a petiolate flower with five petals, one of which on top. In the fourth leaf there is another water mark, viz., a sort of large capital M.¹ At the end we notice the same authenticating certificate which is in the Codex, viz.:

"Yo Fernand Aluares de Toledo secretario del rey & de la reyna nuestros señores la fize escreuir por su mandado. Antonius doctor. Registrada doctor Rodericus doctor Antonius doctor Fernandaluares. Juan Velazquez & en las espaldas de la dicha carta de priuilegio estaua escrito lo siguiente: Sin chancilleria & sin derechos por mandado de sus altezas."

*"I, Ferdinand Alvares de Toledo, Secretary of the King and of the Queen our Lords, caused it to be written by their command. Anthony Doctor. Registered. Doctor Roderick, Doctor Anthony, Doctor Ferdinand Alvarez, John Velazquez. And on the back of the said patent of privilege was written as follows: Without chancery and without fees, by command of their Highnesses."*²

The entire document, in the present form, excepting the last three lines in the certificate, was published by Navarrete.³ It is also inserted, with comments, in the *Historia de las Indias* of Bartolomé de Las Casas.⁴

DOCUMENT III. Pages 49-66.

This is the confirmation of April 23, 1497, of the letters patent of April 30, 1492, and May 28, 1493, conferring on Columbus the titles of Admiral, Viceroy and Governor of the Indies. It is preceded by a repetition of the preamble of Document II., as well as of the text of the said letters patent, and followed by the same royal declarations.

* * This document has been omitted by Navarrete from his Collection of Voyages.⁵ Las Casas discusses its⁶ contents.

DOCUMENT IV. Pages 66-69.

This is a further concession made June 12, 1497, whereby Columbus's eighth of the profits was to be taken from the gross, and not as heretofore from the net receipts.

The decree seems to convey other privileges besides, during three years, but its wording is ambiguous. It may mean that Columbus would hereafter receive the eighth without being obliged to advance a proportion of the cost,—and we shall see further on that such was his understanding of the Capitulations

¹ For the importance of these details of the water mark, see *Qui a imprimé la première lettre de Christophe Colomb?* in the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen*, Leipzig, 1892, 111.

² Duchess of ALBA, *Autógrafos*, pages 10-16.

³ NAVARRETE, vol. ii., Doc. CIX., pages 191-195. So as not to repeat the Capitulations themselves, the learned Spanish editor refers the

reader to the text of the latter, already inserted in the same volume, pages 7-8, Doc. V.

⁴ LAS CASAS, *Historia de las Indias*, lib. i., cap. cxxiv., vol. ii., pages 184-186.

⁵ NAVARRETE, *Colección de los viages*, &c., vol. ii., page 195, note.

⁶ LAS CASAS, *op. cit.*, cap. cxxiv.-v., vol. ii., pages 187-193.

of 1492 in that respect.¹ It may also mean that to the year 1497, Columbus had not supplied his share of the expense which he had to assume to be entitled to the eighth, and that, being in debt to the Crown in consequence, Ferdinand and Isabella release him from the indebtedness.

These interpretations, however, are contradicted by the sentence, "nor shall you be obliged to contribute anything more than you did for the first voyage," as it is now known that he then furnished one eighth of the cost, the money being lent to him by certain Genoese and Florentine merchants settled in Andalusia.²

* * * The document has been published by Navarrete, with the date of June 2.³ The Paris and Genoa codices give "dose", apparently equivalent to "doce"—12. It is also commented upon by Las Casas,⁴ who gives the date "á 2 dias de Junio de 1497 años."

DOCUMENT V. Pages 69-70.

It refers to the appointment of administrators and umpires, May 30, 1497, chosen by the Crown and by Columbus, to ascertain what should be his parts of the gains in the expeditions to the New World, sent and to be sent.

This is the gist of great difficulties which arose, and never were entirely settled, between their Catholic Majesties and Christopher Columbus. The question requires to be explained.

By the Capitulations of 1492, Columbus was entitled to three parts of the gains. Those parts were unequal. The first part he claimed to consist of one third of the whole, by virtue of his office of Admiral of the Indies; that being the share of the Admiral of Castile, with whom he had been placed on an equal footing.⁵ The second part consisted of one tenth, as a reward for his services, past, present, and future. The third part amounted to one eighth, predicated upon his bearing an eighth of the cost of the merchandise embarked for the purposes of trade and barter. This latter participation was altogether optional with Columbus, but this eighth,—as we understand the clause,—inured to him only when he supplied a corresponding part of such expenses.

We have seen from Document IV. that originally all expenses incurred had to be first deducted. But the real difficulty lay in the mode of extracting those three kinds of parts from the net proceeds.

Columbus claimed that the third, the tenth, and the eighth should be each taken from the whole, without being made to bear any diminution in consequence of the other two parts. His reasoning, which has lately been brought to light, is very clear, and as follows :

"A gentleman fits out a ship, and tells one of his men : 'I appoint you captain, and for your trouble you shall receive one third of the gains after deducting the cost.' To another, he says : 'You will be the mate, and get one tenth.' To a third, he says : 'You will be the purser, with one eighth.'

"The ship returns to port, bringing profits amounting to 1000 crowns. The captain then asks for a third of these 1000 crowns, and the gentleman gives them to him. The mate claims one tenth of these 1000 crowns, and he receives it. Finally, the purser demands one eighth of the 1000 crowns, and he gets that amount."⁶

According to that mode of calculating, Columbus would have been entitled, he and his heirs for ever, to a larger share of the profits even than the Spanish Crown.

¹ *Infra*, Document XLIII.

² *Christophe Colomb devant l'Histoire*; Paris, 1892, 8vo, pages 74 and 118.

³ NAVARRETE, vol. ii., Doc. CXIV., pages 202-203.

⁴ LAS CASAS, lib. i., cap. cxxv., vol. ii., page 191.

⁵ *Infra*, Document I., page 10, lines 28-32.

⁶ *Autógrafos de Cristóbal Colon y Papeles de America*; los publica la Duquesa de Berwick y de Alba, Condesa de Siruela; Madrid, 1892, folio, page 19, where the document is published in facsimile and in type.

Let us see how it worked in respect of the proceeds of the second voyage,—as we suppose;¹ so far as this can be done from data in an autograph account of Christopher Columbus recently discovered.²

We will first take as a basis the following weights:³

1 marc	=	230,04646 grammes.
1 once	=	28,75581 —
1 ochava	=	3,59447 —
1 tomine	=	0,59908 —
1 grano	=	0,04992 —

The total amount of gold, in ingots, or in parcels, sold by Columbus's agents, on his own personal account, at Seville, from July to December, 1496, and at Burgos from January to March, 1497, which we assume to represent all the gold accumulated by himself and for himself, in two years (1494 and 1495), was 12 marks, 80 ounces, 57 ochavas, 36 tomines, and 20 grains. Consequently:

12 marcs	=	2760,5575200 grammes.
80 onces	=	2300,4648000 —
57 ochavas	=	204,8851320 —
36 tomines	=	21,5668548 —
20 grains	=	0,9984656 —

Total 5288,4727724 grammes.

Now, what does this weight represent in francs?

Taking the figure 948 for gold refined, the gramme is worth 3,2587 francs. Columbus therefore received for his share 17,228 francs, or about \$3,450 = £708 18s. 6d. in two years. This sum, however, should be multiplied by ten or twelve, to represent its real value at the close of the fifteenth century. As to the share of Spain, for the same period it would have amounted only to 13,628 francs in gold, or about \$2,720⁴ = £558 18s. 4d. of our time.

Unfortunately, the Spanish government adopted a very different method for fixing the respective shares of the parties in interest; and as, in the last three expeditions of Columbus, he was accompanied by Crown treasurers and accountants, it had to be enforced.

In the first place, no notice was ever taken by those functionaries of the third which he claimed by virtue of his Admiralship of the Indies.⁵

The tenth was, naturally, taken from the whole, after deducting the expenses; then the eighth, out of what was left.

Las Casas understands⁶ the present document as referring exclusively to the administration of the Indies, which thenceforth was to be carried on by the Crown conjointly with Columbus, through attorneys or agents appointed by

¹ Our first impression was that those sales of gold were made in 1499-1500. But the mention of CARVAJAL as one of the agents, and his whereabouts, which we have since ascertained, lead us now to believe that the gold was sold when COLUMBUS returned from his second voyage. See *Fasti Columbini*, under the above dates.

² *Relación del oro vendido en Castilla*, in the *Autógrafos*, pages 21-22.

³ We take as a basis for these figures the pragmatics of the time, published by the late Alois HEISS, *Descripción general de las Monedas Hispano-Christianas desde la invasión de los Arabes*, Madrid, 1865, 4to, vol. i., pages 323, 325, 413.

⁴ The total was about \$16,400 in gold, of the time, for two years. In our opinion it is the average yielded after the first voyage of COLUMBUS, and until the arrival of Nicolas de OVANDO, when the mines of Hispaniola were worked more extensively, not only with native Indians, but with others, kidnapped from all the adjoining islands. As the reader is doubtless aware, gold, however, commenced to be obtained in relatively great quantities only with the discovery of the province of Darien.

⁵ On this point, see LAS CASAS, *Historia de las Indias*, vol. ii., page 192.

⁶ LAS CASAS, *ibid.*, page 193.

both. It is so, but the wording of the decree explicitly states that the measure was devised "that he might receive that part which belongs to him."

* * This document is also in Navarrete, vol. ii., No. CXII., pages 199-200.

DOCUMENT VI. Pages 73-78.

This consists of instructions given to Columbus for his third voyage. Here, as well as in the original in the archives of the Duke of Veragua, they are undated, but correspond to April 23, 1497.¹

A provision to be noted is the one instructing Columbus to coin the gold found in the Indies into pieces like the "excelentes de la Granada."² To that effect he is to take with him coiners and machinery. It is to be regretted that these orders were never obeyed. It is true that under the circumstances he might have taken with him dies engraved in Spain, and consequently there would be no difference between 'excelentes' coined in Hispaniola and 'excelentes' coined in the mother country. But there are no traces of such transatlantic money in the documents of the time. Then again, if Columbus had been able to transform his gold into currency, he would not have sent it in ingots or parcels to Medina del Campo, Seville, and Valladolid to be sold to jewellers, as we know he did from his own memoranda.

We see it stated³ that in 1522, Fernand Cortez caused gold and silver money to be coined in Mexico; but no such pieces have ever been seen anywhere. The earliest evidence of American coinage is derived from the ordinance of March 11, 1535,⁴ which implies that before the latter date silver reals were issued by a mint established in Mexico; but these pieces even are not known to exist in any collection.

* * This document is to be found also in Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CIV., pages 182-185.

DOCUMENT VII. Pages 78-82.

An order directed by Ferdinand and Isabella to the Chief Justice and judicial officers of the kingdom, April 23, 1497, to compel the Spanish merchants to sell at the usual price whatever merchandise, victuals, tools, ships, &c., may be necessary for the expedition to the Indies; the said merchants having refused to sell the same on ordinary terms, hoping thereby to enhance prices.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CII., page 180.

DOCUMENT VIII. Pages 82-89.

This consists of other instructions given to Columbus, June 15, 1497, chiefly as regards the colonists already in Hispaniola, and those who were to accompany him in the third expedition. It may be observed that these instructions provide only for the 330 persons which by Doc. XVIII., 23 April, 1497, Columbus was authorized to convey to the Indies, and make no mention of the increase of number permitted by Doc. XXI.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CXV., pages 203-206.

¹ See in NAVARRETE, vol. i., page 278.

² As soon as caravels arrived in Seville, with the precious metal on board, it was immediately sent to the mint: "El oro que trujeron estas carabelas debeis facer labrar ende en la casa de la moneda, para que dello se pague lo que se debe á los que vinieron agora de las Indias y á los que allá quedaron." Letter addressed by

their Catholic Majesties to Juan DE FONSECA, December 3, 1494. NAVARRETE, vol. iii., Doc. XXIX., page 502.

³ Manuel OROZCO Y BERRA, *Diccionario Universal de Historia y Geografia, Mexico*, 1855.

⁴ *Recopilacion de leyes de las Indias*, Ley 1^a, titulo 23, libro 4^o.

This consists of two parts. The first is a recital of the general authorization given to the subjects of Queen Isabella "to go and discover other islands and mainland in the Indies," dated April 10, 1495. The second part is a revocation of the same, dated June 2, 1497, issued at the request of Columbus, as the first was a violation of his privileges.

The Articles or Capitulations of April 17, 1492, did not concede to Christopher Columbus the monopoly of expeditions to the country which he hoped to discover. This privilege was shared with the Crown. All that Columbus could claim absolutely was one-tenth of the tax or royalty imposed on vessels intending to trade in the new regions. Hence on the 10th of April, 1495, Ferdinand and Isabella did not hesitate to publish a general decree authorizing anyone¹ to equip expeditions for the distinct purpose of discovering isles and continents in the Indies and Ocean: "descobrir otras islas é tierra-firme á la parte de las Indias en el mar Océano," subject, of course, to certain prior rights, taxes, and regulations. A number of sea captains availed themselves at once of the authorization: "Diversi navium ductores ad diversa alterius hemisphærii littora missi sunt,"² wrote Peter Martyr, on the 11th of June, 1495.

Who those commanders were, where they went, what countries they actually discovered or visited, are questions which no one can to-day answer with certainty. We only know that, being forbidden to explore the regions already discovered—"demás de las islas e tierra-firme que por nuestro mandado se han descubierta en la dicha parte del mar Océano"—they must have landed in parts theretofore unknown. The date at which, according to Peter Martyr, those expeditions set out, prevents their being mistaken for the enterprises of Hojeda, Pinzon, Lepe, &c., which were four years later.

Columbus, who always watched over his rights and privileges with a jealous eye, complained of that decree. Two years afterwards, June 2, 1497, Ferdinand and Isabella, without yielding entirely to his requests, published a new ordinance cancelling all authorizations theretofore granted which could be shown to be contrary to the privileges possessed by Christopher Columbus.³ That ordinance is the present document.

He did not, however, long maintain such an exclusive policy, and we find him advocating the principle that permission should be granted to all who wished to accomplish discoveries:

"Para en lo de descubrir de nuevas tierras, paresçeme se deva dar liçencia á todos los que quisieren yr, y alargar la mano en lo del quinto, moderandolo en alguna buena manera, á fin de que muchos se dispongan á yr.—Concerning the discovery of new lands, it seems to me that permission ought to be given to all who want to go, and that we should open the hand as regards the fifth, moderating it so as to induce many to avail themselves of the permission."⁴

¹ NAVARRETE, Doc. LXXXVI., vol. ii., page 165. As the decree is in the name of FERDINAND and ISABELLA, one might suppose that the terms, "algunas personas, vecinos é moradores en algunas Ciudades, Villas é Lugares é Puertos de nuestros Reinos é Señoríos," apply to all Spaniards; but in reality only ISABELLA'S own subjects could avail themselves of the privilege. *Discovery of North America*, page 130, note 15. See also *Documentos ineditos de Indias*, vol. xxx., page 317.

² ANGHIERA, *Opus Epistol.*, Epist. clx. (June 11, 1495), page 90.

³ "Defendemos firmemente que alguna ni algunas personas no sean osadas de ir contra ellas [the former mercedes] . . . ; é si el tenor é forma dellas, . . . en algo le perjudica la dicha

provision que así mandamos dar, que de suso va incorporada, por la presente la revocamos." NAVARRETE, vol. ii., pages 201-202. A certain phrase of COLUMBUS seems to apply to new infringements of that ordinance: "Pago juramento que cantidad de onbres han ydo á las Indias que no meresçian el agua para con Dios y con el mundo, y agora buelven allá." *Infra*, page 254. That sentence is not to be found in the Genoa codex.

⁴ *Cartas de Indias*, Doc. I., page 5. Americus VESPUCCIUS was far from being so liberal, but expressed his opinion several years later. Having been asked by Cardinal XIMENEZ, on the 9th of December, 1508, whether it was not desirable that "cada uno tenga lybertad de yr i llevar lo que quysiere," which was the policy of Portugal

Consistently with his altered views in this respect, Columbus authorized many commanders, "muchos capitanes," to explore the newly-discovered lands. This we learn from Andres Bernaldez,¹ who was an eyewitness:

"Y estando él en la corte se negoció é concertó, é se dió licencia á otros muchos capitanes que la procuraron para ir á descubrir, é fueron é descubrieron diversas islas. —And being at the Court, authorization was negotiated, agreed, and granted to many other captains, who obtained it for the purpose of going to discover; and they went, and discovered various islands."²

* * * The first of those two documents has been published by Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. LXXXVI., pages 165-168; the second, in the same vol., Doc. CXIII., pages 201-202.

DOCUMENT X. Pages 98-101.

An order, April 23, 1497, addressed to the customs-officers, receivers of rents, &c., of Seville and Cadiz, that all goods shipped for or brought from the Indies should be exempt from customs-duty, market-toll, or any other duties.

* * * This document has been published by Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CVII., page 189.

DOCUMENT XI. Pages 101-106.

Further and more explicit orders, May 6, 1497, addressed to the governors, magistrates, customs-officers, tithe-collectors, &c., of Seville and Cadiz, for the free lading and unlading of goods destined for or brought from the Indies, on production of a certificate signed by Columbus or his agents, so as to prevent fraud and deception.

* * * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CX., pages 196-198; but without the mandamus addressed to all the judicial officers in Seville and Cadiz, fixing January 1, 1498, as the day when those regulations would commence to be enforced. We have found that important order only in the Paris and Genoa codices.

DOCUMENT XII. Pages 106-113.

Licence, June 22, 1497, to subjects of Queen Isabella who have been guilty of certain crimes, to settle in Hispaniola, at their own cost, with a prospective pardon.

We find this practice from the very beginning. There is an ordinance to that effect, dated as early as April 30, 1492.³ No wonder therefore that Columbus's intention to return to Spain was hastened by the desire to escape from the villains who accompanied him in his first voyage: "Por quittarse de la mala compañía que tenia, y que siempre habia dicho que era gente desmandada."⁴

* * * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CXX., pages 212-215.

DOCUMENT XIII. Pages 113-117.

An order to the judicial officers in the kingdom, June 22, 1497, directing that persons who are or may be under sentence of banishment and to work in the mines, should be sent to Hispaniola, and that those under simple sentence of banishment should also be sent thither but with reduction of the term of the sentence.

* * * This document has been published by Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CXVI., pages 207-208.

concerning her African colonies—"segun que lo haze el rey de Portugal en lo de la mina del Oro"—VESPUCCIUS raised considerable objections against such an enlightened course of action. *Ibidem*, Doc. III., page 11.

¹ BERNALDEZ, *Historia de los Reyes Católicos*, vol. ii., cap. xxxi., page 79.

² *Discovery of North America*, pages 125-126.

³ NAVARRETE, vol. ii., Doc. IX., page 15. See also *Bibliotheca Americana Vetustissima*, Additions, No. 10, page 14.

⁴ Logbook, January 7, 1493, in NAVARRETE, *Coleccion de los viages que hicieron los Españoles*, vol. i., page 129.

DOCUMENT XIV. Pages 117-118.

Warrant to the Conde de Cifuentes, Chief Standard Bearer and Assistant of Seville, June 22, 1497, to receive such prisoners sent to him by the various justices, and retain them in safe custody till he should deliver them to the Admiral or his agents on board the vessels when ready to sail.

* * Also published by Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CXVII., page 209.

DOCUMENT XV. Pages 118-121.

An order directed, June 22, 1497, to an officer of the Crown, whose name is omitted, to compel underwriters and ship-chandlers to furnish ships and provisions at the usual prices.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CXVIII., page 210.

DOCUMENT XVI. Pages 121-122.

Orders directed, June 22, 1497, to the port officers in Seville and Cadiz, to permit Columbus to ship free of charge a certain quantity of wheat and barley, from the thirds belonging to their Majesties and held of their right in the Archbishopric.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CXIX., page 211.

DOCUMENT XVII. Page 122.

This is a mere duplicate of the order directed to Ferdinand de Soria, April 23, 1497, to give to Columbus an authenticated copy of the documents pertaining to the privileges of the Admiral of Castile, which we have already mentioned.

* * See above, Doc. I., page xlviii.

DOCUMENT XVIII. Pages 122-125.

An authorization given to Columbus, April 23, 1497, to take into pay for the Indies, soldiers, labourers, gardeners, &c., to the number of three hundred and thirty persons, including thirty women.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CIII., page 181.

DOCUMENT XIX. Pages 125-126.

An order to the Crown Treasurer to pay out of the receipts all salaries and sums due to employees of the Spanish government in the New World. April 23, 1497.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CVII., page 189.

DOCUMENT XX. Page 126.

The Chief Accountant is authorized to reimburse Columbus for moneys lent to certain parties in the Indies. May 9th, 1497.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CXI., page 199.

DOCUMENT XXI. Pages 126-129.

Columbus is authorized, April 22, 1497, to increase the number, to five hundred, of persons to accompany him to the West Indies. It is curious to note that this is dated a day earlier than the order which it appears to amplify. See Document XVIII.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CVI., page 188.

DOCUMENT XXII. Pages 129-133.

Columbus, July 22, 1497, is authorized to apportion land amongst settlers.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CXXI., page 215.

DOCUMENT XXIII. Pages 133-137.

Bartholomew Columbus is appointed "adelantado"¹ of the West Indies, July 22, 1497.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CXXII., page 217.

DOCUMENT XXIV. Page 137.

Columbus, December 23, 1497, is authorized to pay whatever may be due to certain persons in the West Indies.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CXXIII., page 219.

DOCUMENT XXV. Pages 137-138.

Ferdinand and Isabella write, December 23, 1497, to Fonseca and Columbus jointly, in reply to a letter sent by them, concerning the purchase of provisions for the third voyage.

We notice that Fonseca and Columbus are designated as both belonging to the Royal Council: "ambos del nuestro consejo."

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CXXIV., page 219.

DOCUMENT XXVI. Pages 138-141.

Mandamus addressed to all men in the West Indies to obey Columbus as Viceroy and Governor of the same. August 16, 1494.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. LXXX., page 156.

DOCUMENT XXVII. Pages 141-145.

Mandamus to all officers and men on board the ships of the second expedition, to obey Columbus, May 28, 1493, and appointing him Captain General of the fleet.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. XLII., page 62.

DOCUMENT XXVIII. Pages 145-146.

Columbus having been authorized to grant charters and decrees patent and seal them with (a duplicate) of the royal seal and to appoint a proxy to act in his absence, that proxy is now authorized to exercise these powers while Columbus is engaged in prosecuting maritime discoveries.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. XLIV., page 65.

DOCUMENT XXIX. Pages 146-149.

The King and Queen forego their right to choose functionaries from a certain list prepared by Columbus, and leave the sole right with him. May 28, 1493.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. XLIIL., p. 64.

¹ We feel constrained to use the Spanish term, there being no corresponding word in English. The office of "Adelantado" is described by SALAZAR DE MENDOÇA (*Origen de las Dignidades*; Toledo, 1618, folio 61) as follows: "El Adelantado en la paz, es Presidente, y Justicia mayor

de algun Reyno, provincia, ó distrito: y en la guerra el Capitan general:—The Adelantado, in time of peace is President and Chief Justice of any Kingdom, province or district, and, in time of war, Captain-General." It corresponds to the *Grand Sénéchal de France* in the Middle Ages.

DOCUMENT XXX. Pages 149-161.

Letters patent of April 23, 1497, authorizing Columbus to create the sort of entail called "Mayorazgo."

It is very much to be regretted that Columbus should not have inserted also the deed creating the entail, February 22, 1498. We possess the latter document in notarial copies absolutely authentic, but in this place it would complete the series.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CXXVI., pages 221-226. See our *Christophe Colomb*, vol. ii., pages 148-163, 265-270, 287-292, 325-327.

DOCUMENT XXXI. Pages 161-162.

This is the letter which Ferdinand and Isabella addressed to Columbus, March 30, 1493, on his return from the first voyage, bidding him come to the Court at once to relate his discovery of the New World. We possess three texts of that letter, all dated "De Barcelona á treinta dias de Marzo de noventa y tres años." There can be no doubt therefore as to the exactness of the date of March 30th, 1493. It does not follow, however, that their Catholic Majesties were not already in possession of all the details of that memorable expedition. The *Fasti Columbini* show, by the Journal of Tribaldo d'Amerigo de' Rossi, by the Chronicle of Pietro Parenti, by one of Simon Verde's letters to Piero Niccoli, and by other contemporaneous authorities, that the news of the discovery, borrowed from Columbus's own letter, commenced to circulate in Northern Italy at a time when their Catholic Majesties had not yet been informed of his arrival at Palos; and that they knew the leading circumstances of Columbus's voyage twenty-one days before he was invited by the above-mentioned letter to come to Barcelona.¹

* * This letter is also in Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. XV., page 21, from the original in the archives of the Duke of Veragua; and in Las Casas, *Historia General de las Indias*, lib. i., cap. lxxvii., vol. i., pages 475-476.

DOCUMENT XXXII. Pages 162-165.

Letter from the Queen individually to Columbus, September 5, 1493, sending him a copy of a book which he had left with her, and requesting him to send, as soon as finished, the sailing chart which he was to prepare. Columbus received that letter, September 8, 1493, in the Puerto de Santa Maria.

Already, on the 4th of August preceding, Queen Isabella had reminded Columbus to make and give her that map. The request seems to have been prompted by the fact that the relation of the first voyage which he remitted to the Queen failed to state the geographical position of the newly-found regions, and the degrees of longitude which he traversed to reach those countries. This omission was evidently intentional on the part of Columbus, as Isabella in her request says: "Y si vos pareciere que no la debemos mostrar, nos lo escribid:— And if it appears to you that we ought not to show it, write so to us."²

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. LXX., page 107. Las Casas, lib. i., cap. lxxxiii., vol. ii., page 2.

DOCUMENT XXXIII. Pages 165-166.

Ferdinand and Isabella, April 13, 1494, acknowledge receipt of the letter which Columbus had sent them by Antonio de Torres, apparently on the 2nd of February preceding. That letter is lost.

¹ The account was sent direct by COLUMBUS to Barcelona, from Cascaes, or from the Rastello, in the Tagus, March 4th, 1493.

² *Cartographia Americana Vetustissima*, No. 16, in the *Discovery of North America*, page 402.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. LXXIII., page 115. Las Casas, lib. i., cap. ciii., vol. ii., page 91, where this letter of Ferdinand and Isabella is dated, "á diez y ocho :—the eighteenth," instead of "a trese :—the thirteenth."

DOCUMENT XXXIV. Pages 166-170.

Reply of their Catholic Majesties, August 16, 1494, to the letters which Columbus sent to them by Antonio de Torres.

This letter implies the fact of a voyage of Torres heretofore unnoticed, and which must have taken place, to and fro, between April and August, 1494. The present letter was conveyed by Torres in the course of a subsequent transatlantic expedition, from which he returned to Spain in April, 1495.¹

It is by this letter that Columbus was first informed of the treaty of Tordesillas, and of the new line of demarcation established thereby. The reader will notice that their Majesties express the wish that Columbus will go himself and join the Portuguese mariners appointed to fix the point where the boundary line is to pass. For Columbus's opinion concerning that infringement of his rights, see below, Document XXXVI.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. LXXIX., page 154. Las Casas, *Historia General de las Indias*, lib. i., cap. ciii., vol. ii., pages 92-94.

DOCUMENT XXXV. Pages 170-177.

Authorization and powers addressed to Columbus and Fonseca, May 24, 1493, to enable them to fit out the second expedition.

To this act, which completes the first series of authenticated documents, is added the certificate delivered by the Alcaldes and authenticated by the Sevillan notaries, January 5, 1502. (This certificate, beginning on p. 10, is continued on p. 177, and ends on p. 181.)

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. XXXIII., pages 48-51.

DOCUMENT XXXVI. Pages 182-197.

This is the second Papal Bull (of May 4, 1493), preceded here by an authenticating preamble from the Bishop of Barcelona, and ending with a certificate of legalization, apparently by the same, which bears the date of July 19, 1493, with a further authentication delivered at Seville, Thursday, December 30, 1501, but erroneously dated 1502.

The importance of this Bull to Columbus is that it establishes a line of demarcation from the North to the South Pole, *one hundred leagues* west and south of the Azores and Cape Verd islands, thus fixing the transatlantic domain of Spain, together with Columbus's rights (by implication), west of that line. Portugal being dissatisfied with only 100 leagues, entered into negotiations to have the apportionment increased; the outcome of which was the Treaty of Tordesillas, of June 7, 1494, in which the new dividing line was drawn 370 leagues west of the Cape Verd islands. These facts are well known. But historians have failed to notice that neither Christopher Columbus nor his heirs ever assented to such a great concession on the part of Ferdinand and Isabella.

In fact, those 370 leagues corresponded to 28° 13' longitude, of which about 19°, according to the anonymous Weimar chart, encroached on the South American Continent, thus depriving Columbus of the third, tenth, and eighth of the profits which were afterwards obtained by Portugal from Brazil.

It is for this reason that when Columbus has occasion to speak of his rights, he always ignores not only the Tordesillas Treaty, but at times even the Papal Bull of May 4th, and goes so far as to fix a Demarcation Line of his own

¹ *Chronology of Voyages*, in the *Discovery of North America*, No. viii., page 670.

invention. For instance, in the very curious legal opinion lately brought to light by the Duchess of Alba,¹ which is entirely in the handwriting of Columbus, and commences with the pious invocation, *Jesus cum Maria sit nobis in via*, he makes his lawyer say to him :

“Por vuestro priuilegio y capitulaçion parece que S. A. os fizieron su almirante del mar oçeano, el qual fizieron marcar por vna raya que pasa de las yslas del cabo verde aquellas de los açores de polo a polo.”

“It appears from your privilege and agreement that their Highnesses made you their Admiral of the Ocean sea, which they caused to be marked [divided] by a line passing through the islands of Cape Verd and those of the Azores, from Pole to Pole.”

The reader will notice that no mention is made therein of the 100 leagues west of that line, granted by the Bull of May 4th, 1493.

But in the entail which Columbus created on the 22nd of February, 1498, he implicitly accepts the concession of 100 leagues, as we find the Demarcation Line mentioned in these words :

“Y plugo a Sus Altezas de me hacer su Almirante en el mar Océano, allende de una raya imaginaria que mandaron señalar sobre las islas de Cabo Verde, y aquellas de los Azores, cien leguas que pasa de Polo á Polo.”

*“And it pleased their Highnesses to appoint me their Admiral of the Ocean sea, beyond an imaginary line which they ordered to be drawn from Pole to Pole, 100 leagues from the islands of Cape Verd and those of the Azores.”*²

And as in the will which Columbus executed at Segovia, August 25, 1505,³ and confirmed almost *in articulo mortis*, May 19, 1506,⁴ that description of the Line of Demarcation is repeated word for word, it is evident that Columbus never assented to the concession of the 270 leagues additional made by Spain to Portugal, June 7, 1494.

* * * This Bull has been frequently printed and translated, but the legalizations and authentications above mentioned are to be found only in the Paris and Genoa codices. Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. XVIII., pages 28-35, takes his text from what he calls “the original in the Archives of the Indies at Seville,” and his Spanish translation from the *Politica Indiana* of Solórzano.

We do not know, and it is impossible to ascertain from the title, whether that “original” is the Bull which was printed, in a sort of broadside, at the time, and sold in London, at auction, by Puttick and Simpson, May 24th, 1854, and bought by Rich for £4 8s., or whether it is the Bull of May 3rd.⁵

DOCUMENT XXXVII. Pages 198-205.

Proclamation from the King and Queen, issued September 27, 1501, ordering that certain wrongs committed by Bobadilla against Columbus, and which are specified, be set right.

¹ *Informacion de los privilegios y mercedes del Almirante*, reproduced in facsimile in *Autógrafos de Cristóbal Colon . . . los publica la Duquesa de Berwick y de Alba*, Madrid, 1892, pages 17-20.

² *Memorial del Pleyto*, verso of the 136th leaf, No. 885, and NAVARRETE, vol. ii., page 226.

³ Legalized copy delivered by the successor of Pedro DE HINOJEDO, the original notary, Pedro DE ASCOYTIA, at the request of Diego COLUMBUS, April 27, 1524. MS. in the Archives of the Indies at Seville, *Patronato*, Est. 1, Caj. 1, Leg. 1-2, Pieça 6. See also NAVARRETE, vol. ii., p. 313.

⁴ *Ibidem*, and our *Christophe Colomb*, vol. ii., pages 148-163.

⁵ *Bibliotheca Americana Vetustissima, Additions*, No. 1, pages 1-2. During a late visit to Rome, we made great and fruitless efforts to discover a printed copy (of the time) of either of those bulls, particularly in the Archives of the Lateran. While on the subject, we beg to recommend to the reader the *Demarcation Line of Alexander VI.: an Episode of the Period of Discoveries*, written by Mr. Edward Gaylord BOURNE, and published in the number for May, 1892, of the *Yale Review*. In our humble judgment, that little pamphlet exhibits more original research and greater critical acumen than many recent and ponderous histories of COLUMBUS which we could name.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CXLII., pages 275-278, from the original record in the Archives of the Indies in Seville, with slight verbal differences, which do not affect the sense, and of course with the omission of the two annotations: "Vala o dis que escripto sobre raydo en esta plana;" that is, the passage is written over an erasure.

DOCUMENT XXXVIII. Pages 205-206.

Order and instructions to execute the preceding, addressed to the Commander de Lares (Nicolas de Ovando), September 28, 1501.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CXLIV., page 279. Las Casas, lib. ii., cap. iv., vol. ii., page 24.

DOCUMENT XXXIX. Pages 206-209.

Order of September 27, 1501, addressed to Ximeno de Bribiesca,¹ recalling that Columbus is entitled to one eighth part of the profit, provided he ships, at his own cost, one eighth of the merchandise exported to the Indies; and, in consequence, ordering that he be informed of the amount of the goods which the King and Queen are about to send thither, in order that he may contribute an eighth part thereof.

* * Navarrete, vol. ii., Doc. CXLIII., page 278.

DOCUMENT XL. Pages 209-213.

Letter from Ferdinand and Isabella to Columbus, March 14, 1502, in reply to his letter of February 26 preceding, which is lost.

* * Navarrete, vol. i., pages 277-279. Las Casas, lib. ii., cap. iv., vol. ii., pages 26-27. The latter omits five short clauses, and also the authentication of the three Seville notaries of March 22, 1502. This document is also to be found in the *Historie*, cap. lxxxvii., fo. 193, verso.

As regards the sketch of a hand with extended finger, drawn by Columbus in the margin of the present, see above, page xxxvii.

DOCUMENT XLI. Pages 218-221.

The Capitulations or Articles of 17 April, 1492. These five Articles are recited in the Confirmation granted by Ferdinand and Isabella, 23 April, 1497, Document II., pages 37-49.

DOCUMENT XLII. Pages 222-226.

Legal opinion given by Columbus's lawyer, as to his privileges and right to the thirds, eighths, and tenths, under the Capitulations or Articles of 17 April, 1492.

* * This document is to be found only in the Paris and Genoa codices.

DOCUMENT XLIII. Pages 229-245.

Rejoinder from Columbus to legal objections raised by the Crown against his interpretation of the Capitulations relative to his share of the profits.

The preceding document and the present should not have been separated, although the first is of a date anterior to the second, which we take to be of the year 1501. They present a certain interest as belonging to the series of legal papers which have rendered the name of Columbus proverbial in Spain as an indefatigable scribbler.² These two legal opinions, and two others lately

¹ That is the menial of Bishop FONSECA, whom COLUMBUS had kicked out of his ship in 1497. LAS CASAS, lib. i., cap. cxxvi., vol. ii., page 199.

² The buffoon of CHARLES V., Francesillo DE ZUÑIGA, once exclaimed: "Ruego à Dios que a Gutierrez nunca le falte papel, porque escribe

mas que Tolomeo y que Colon, el que halló las Indias:—I hope to God that Gutierrez will always have plenty of paper, for he writes more than Ptolemy and than Columbus who discovered the Indies." *Crónica de Don Francesillo de Zuñiga*, in the *Curiosidades bibliograficas*, published by RIVADENEYRA at Madrid, 1855, page 59.

brought to light by the Duchess of Alba,¹ are the only documents of the kind which have been preserved. The loss of the others is not to be regretted, as the present are amply sufficient to initiate us into the cause of his complaints against the Spanish Government.

The reader will notice that Columbus first claims one third, not only of the gains made over the seas, in virtue of his office of Admiral, but over the land, and of the land itself, whether insular or continental, discovered or to be discovered beyond the Ocean, either by himself or others: the land to be held, apparently, as a sort of fief or feud by him and his heirs for ever.

Their Catholic Majesties always opposed that leonine interpretation of the Capitulations, and it remained during the lifetime of Columbus in the sphere of mere discussion. But after his death, this alleged right became the source of great litigation, initiated, before the Council of the Indies and Fiscal, by his son and heir, Diego Columbus. The latter claimed that in consequence of the grant, Vicente Yañez Pinzon, Diego de Lepe, Rodrigo de Bastidas, Alonso de Hojeda, indeed, all the Spanish navigators who discovered the north coast of South America, from the Gulf of Paria to Yucatan, owed him one third, besides one tenth of all the profits arising and to arise from their discoveries.²

Another exorbitant pretension, certainly unjustified, on the part of Christopher Columbus, was that one eighth of the profits belonged to him, though he should not have furnished a corresponding eighth of the costs. In his own words:

“Porque en la primera armada de que resulto las dichas Yndias es a saber la ganancia que dellas proçede, tal dicho Almirante contribuyo en su ochava parte, y aun cerca de la mitad de la costa de donde consyguio perpetuo tytulo al dicho ochavo por ser el resultado de la dicha armada senpyterno.

“Because in the first expedition, from which resulted the said Indies, that is to say the gain which arises from them, the said Admiral contributed his eighth share, and even about half of the cost; whence he acquired a perpetual title to the said eighth, because the result of the said expedition is [likewise] perpetual.”

Nowhere else do we find that Columbus at any time supplied more than one eighth of the cost; and as to his perpetual right under all circumstances to one eighth of the profits, it existed only in his imagination. True it is that, June 12, 1497,³ certain additional concessions were made to him in regard to that part of the gains, but only for three years.

* * This document is to be found only in the Paris and Genoa codices.

DOCUMENT XLIV. Pages 246-265.

Columbus's famous letter “to the Nurse.” The prince mentioned in the title of this letter is the son of Ferdinand and Isabella, and heir apparent, who died prematurely, September 28, 1497.⁴ The lady to whom it is addressed was his nurse, Doña Juana de Torres,⁵ the sister of Antonio de Torres, one of Columbus's lieutenants in the second expedition, and who afterwards repeatedly commanded squadrons sent to the New World.⁶

¹ *Informacion de los privilegios y mercedes del Almirante, and Respuesta del Almirante à los capitulos de sus privilegios*, in the *Autógrafos*, pages 17 and 23.

² *Probanzas hechas por el fiscal del Rey*, in NAVARRETE, vol. iii., pages 538-591, and *Los Pleitos de Colon*, vol. vii. of the second series of the *Coleccion de documentos inéditos de ultramar*, Madrid, 1892, 8vo.

³ *Supra*, Document IV., page xlix.

⁴ “Hortantur medici Reginam, hortatur et

Rex, ut à Principis latere Margaritam aliquando semoveat, interpellet, inducias precantur, protestantur periculum ex frequenti copula ephebo imminere.” Peter Martyr d'ANGHIERA, *Opus Epistolarum*, Amstelodami, 1670, folio, Epist. clxxvi., page 100.

⁵ NAVARRETE, vol. i., page 265, note.

⁶ LAS CASAS, lib. i., cap. lxxxii., vol. i., page 497; vol. ii., pages 85, 90; vol. iii., page 18. *Discovery of North America, Chronology of Voyages*, No. viii., p. 690.

The letter is undated as to month and day, but, contrary to our first impression,¹ it was written by Columbus on board the caravel² which brought him in chains, and forwarded immediately upon his landing in Spain, about November 20, 1500. It first appeared in print as an Italian translation published by the Genoese Academicians in 1814. They doubtless borrowed their text from some relatively modern extract of the Paris cartulary, as it contains a paragraph which exists only in that Codex.³

It was published for the first time in the original Spanish in Spotorno's *Codice Diplomatico*, from the Genoese manuscript,⁴ in 1822. The second time it appeared in that language was in Navarrete's *Coleccion*, in 1825, from a copy taken by Muñoz, we do not know whence, but revised on Spotorno's text.⁵

The letter exists in the manuscript *Historia de las Indias* of Las Casas,⁶ borrowed apparently from a copy which he seems to have found among the papers of Fernando Columbus, when they were still deposited, *pendente lite*, in the Monastery of San Pablo at Seville, in 1544.⁷

Columbus in the course of his manifold troubles may have written two or more letters like the present to Doña Juana de Torres; but we know of no other than the above. The *Historie* speaks of only one: "Ch'egli scrisse in vna sua lettera alla Nutrice del principe Don Gioan di Castiglia:—What he wrote in a letter of his to the Nurse of Prince Don Juan of Castile." If the letter alluded to is the one which we are now describing, then the latter lacks an important passage, viz.:

"Io non sono il primo Ammiraglio della mia famiglia. Mettanmi pure il nome, che vorranno, che in vltimo Daudid, Re sapientissimo, fu guardiano di pecore, et poi fu fatto Re di Gierusalemme; et io seruo son di quello istesso Signore, che mise lui in tale stato."⁸

"I am not the first Admiral of my family. Let them call me by whatever name they please, for after all, David, the wisest of kings, who at first had been a mere shepherd, became king of Jerusalem; and I am a servant of the same Lord who raised him to such a position."

Whether Columbus actually made such a statement, or it is a vain boast of his son Fernando, we claim to have shown that there had never been any admiral in the family of Columbus, except himself.⁹

* * * The text of this Letter to the Nurse, taken from the Paris Codex, with an introduction, notes, and the different readings in the Genoa cartulary, and in Las Casas, has been published in the *Raccolta di tutti gli scritti autentici conosciuti di Cristoforo Colombo tolti dagli archivi di Simancas, di Siviglia, di Madrid, di Genova, e del suo discendente Sua Eccellenza il Duca di Veragua, annotati, commentati, e pubblicati sui testi originali in occasione del quarto centenario della scoperta del Nuovo Mondo da Henry Harrisse*.—*Genova, Tipografia del R. Istituto Sordo-Muti*, MDCCCXCII [*sic, pro 1890*]. Folio (Specimen number), pages 7-25.

¹ *Christophe Colomb*, vol. ii., page 114.

² The heading of the letter states that COLUMBUS wrote it "while on his way from the Indies as a prisoner:—viniendo preso de las Indias." Then LAS CASAS (lib. i., cap. clxxxii., vol. ii., page 501) says that as soon as the Admiral arrived at Cadiz, the captain of the ship *La Gorda*, on which he came, named Andres MARTIN, kindly allowed him to send one of his servants secretly with his letters for their Majesties and other persons: "con sus cartas para los Reyes y para otras personas." We are indebted for this correction to Don José Maria ASENSIO Y TOLEDO, of Seville.

³ *Ragionamento*, of Seville, in *Memorie dell' Accademia delle scienze, lettere ed arti di Genova*, vol. iii., Genova, 1814, 4to, pages 97-107.

⁴ See the *Codice Diplomatico Colombo-Americano*, SPOTORNO'S edition, pages 298-318.

⁵ NAVARRETE, *ubi supra*.

⁶ LAS CASAS, lib. i., cap. clxxxii., vol. ii., pages 501-510.

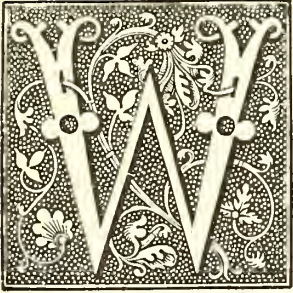
⁷ *D. Fernando Colon, historiador de su padre*, Sevilla, 1871, 4to, pages 96-107; *Christophe Colomb*, vol. i., pages 128-9.

⁸ *Historie*, cap. ii., verso of leaf 6.

⁹ *Christophe Colomb*, chap. ii., § iv., vol. i., page 162. *Les Colombo de France et d'Italie, fameux marins du XV^e siècle. D'après des documents nouveaux ou inédits tirés des archives de Milan, de Paris et de Venise. Mémoire lu à l'Académie des inscriptions et belles-lettres dans ses séances des 1^{er} et 15 mai 1874.* Paris, 1874, 4to, page 74.

CHAPTER VIII.

The Autograph Letters of Columbus to Oderigo and to the Office of Saint George. Pages 268-275.



HEN Lorenzo Oderigo presented to the Republic the two cartularies which we have described, there were pasted in one of them two autograph letters of Christopher Columbus.

Those two letters are addressed to Nicolò Oderigo; and as they refer to the two codices, there is added to the present publication a facsimile of both, together with an elucidated reproduction of the text and a translation.

Afterwards, the letter addressed to the Bank of St. George by Columbus having been found in the archives of that institution, it was taken out of the files, and added to the two letters to Oderigo, in the *Custodia* of the municipality. This is reproduced likewise here in facsimile, with a printed text, and translation into English.

The first letter is dated March 21, 1502. Its meaning, as well as that of the other two epistles, is too clear to require explanation. The persons mentioned only need to be made known.

Nicolò Oderigo was ambassador to France in 1495 and 1515; to Spain in 1501, 1502, and 1506; and a member of the deputation sent by the Genoese to meet the King of France, Francis I., at Milan in 1515.¹

Francesco Ribarol, or di Rivarola, was a Genoese banker established in Seville. We first see his name February 4, 1500, when he was fined for having equipped and sent a clandestine expedition to the New World.² March 19, 1501, Ribarol appeared before the Fiscal in Seville, to protest against being taxed, on the plea that he was a Genoese: "per razon de ser genoves."³ We then notice his figuring with countrymen of his among the silent partners who advanced Columbus's eighth for the fourth voyage, therefore in the spring of 1502.⁴ July 5, 1503, he is mentioned by Queen Isabella in connection with the expedition of Juan de la Cosa to Uraba.⁵ One of the letters of exchange which Columbus sent to his son Diego, at the Court, in December, 1504, was furnished by Ribarol.⁶

"Micer Juan Luys" is doubtless Gian Luigi Fieschi, whom the documents of the time show to have been a personal friend of Oderigo. "Madona Catalina" is his wife, daughter of Gian Maria del Caretto. The letter which Columbus says he sent to them is lost.

¹ Federico FEDERICI, *Nobiltà Ligust.*, MS. in the Berio Library in Genoa. CASONI, *Annali della Repubblica di Genova*, 1707, fol., lib. i., pages 26-30 *et seq.*

² NAVARRETE, vol. iii., Doc. XLII., pages 513-514; *The Discovery of North America*, in the *Chronology of Voyages*, No. xxx., page 681.

³ *Archivo municipal de Sevilla*, Sevilla, 1860, folio; vol. i., *carpetas* 110 and 111, No. 22.

⁴ VARGAS PONCE's Collection of Transcripts. MS. in the Library of the Academy of History at Madrid, vol. liv., page 1423.

⁵ *Carta de la Reina Católica Doña Isabel à los oficiales de la Contratacion de Sevilla*; in the *Coleccion de documentos ineditos de España*, vol. xiii., page 501.

⁶ Letter of COLUMBUS to his son DIEGO, from Seville; NAVARRETE, vol. i., page 345.

"Geronimo de Santi Esteban" seems to be the Genoese traveller Girolamo da Santo Stefano, the companion of Girolamo Adorno in a noted voyage accomplished between 1496 and 1499.¹

The second letter to Oderigo is dated from Seville, December 27, 1504. The "Franco Catanio" therein mentioned was a Genoese banker in Seville, and one of the parties who advanced the eighth for Columbus's fourth voyage.

The other letter, second in point of date, is addressed to the famous Office of St. George, April 2, 1502. With regard to this and the preceding letter, we beg leave to refer the reader to our work entitled *Christopher Columbus and the Bank of St. George*, where their importance is shown in detail.

¹ RAMUSIO, *Raccolta*, 1563, vol. i., fo. 345.



CHAPTER IX.

The Engraving of the Monastery of Las Cuevas and of the Mansion of Fernando Columbus.



THE ornamental headpiece of the present Introduction is taken from the admirable bird's-eye plan of Seville in the sixteenth century, drawn on the spot about the year 1563 by the Antwerpian painter George Hoefnagel, and afterwards engraved for Braun or Bruin and Hochenberg, who inserted it in their well-known *Civitates orbis terrarum*, published at Cologne in 1572.¹

The monumental arch (26) on the right of the reader is the "Puerta de Goles:—the Gate of Hercules," which was one of the main entrances into Seville. The figure 8 indicates the street "Calle de las Armas." The buildings (4) extending on the west side of the gate, to the banks of the Guadalquivir, are the "Casas de Colon—the houses of Columbus," and comprise the celebrated dwelling-place of Fernando, the illegitimate son of Christopher, which that enlightened bibliophile commenced to build in 1526, and where he died, on the 12th of July, 1539. The famous Biblioteca Fernandina (now Colombina) was apparently located in the largest of those four structures. If Hoefnagel had been able to give the details of the front, we should doubtless see the white marble portico and architectural ornaments which Fernando, in the summer of 1529, requested Nicolao de Grimaldi to have sculptured in Genoa, and which, having been partly paid for in advance, were doubtless executed.² The large garden adjoining, labelled "Guerta de Colon:—Columbus' Grove," was an enclosure of about eight English acres, planted with 5,000 trees, the majority of which came from the New World.³ All that was left of that princely abode in 1871 consisted of a single tree, a sapote (*Achras Sapota*, L.), which we in vain endeavoured to purchase from the city with the ground on which it stood, enclose the same in an iron railing, and save the venerable tree from impending destruction.⁴

As to the edifice on the other side of the river, bearing the inscription "Monsterio de las Cuevas," it is the Carthusian convent founded in 1400 by Archbishop Gonzalo de Mena, who named it "Monasterio de Nuestra Señora Santa Maria de las Cuevas:—the Monastery of our Lady Saint Mary of the Caves." It contained a chapel, built in 1507 by the Prior Diego de Luxan, and dedicated to "Santa Ana," wherein the ashes of Christopher Columbus

¹ *Excerpta Colombiniana*, page 27, note 2. The same plan of Seville is to be found in all the editions of the *Civitates orbis terrarum*, which work contains also a smaller sketch of the city, presenting certain differences relative to the "Casas de Colon." We have found lately a smaller and rougher copy, 23 × 16 mm., coloured, with the legends in French, and the inscription: "à Paris chez Chereau le Jeune, rue S. Jacq.," where "la Maison de Colon" is somewhat different.

² See the contract drafted by Stefano SAULI-

CARREGA, September 10, 1529, borrowed from the Notarial Archives preserved in the Palazzo in the city of Genoa, and published in our *Excerpta*, pages 289-291.

³ Juan DE MAL-LARA, *Recibimiento que hizo la muy noble ciudad de Sevilla á la C. R. M. del Rey D. Philipe*, Sevilla, 1572, 8vo, fo. 50.

⁴ *Fernand Colomb*, pages 158-161. Mr. Clements R. MARKHAM, *Life of Christopher Columbus*, London, 1892, 8vo, p. 325, says it is a star-appletree (*Chrysophyllum Cainito*).

were deposited in 1509. Those of his brother Diego, in 1515; of his legitimate son, of the same name, in 1526; and of his worthless grandson, Luis, after 1572, were also interred in that chapel.¹

On the 2nd of June, 1537, Charles the Fifth granted to Doña Maria de Toledo, widow of Diego, son of the great Genoese, the privilege to have the remains of the latter and of his descendants buried in the chancel of the cathedral church of St. Domingo.² Those of Columbus and of his son Diego were consequently transferred to that city, probably when Doña Maria de Toledo returned to Hispaniola, on the 6th of April, 1538, with the squadron of Hernandez de Soto,³ or perhaps later;⁴ but, at all events, before 1549.⁵

It was also in that chapel of the Monastery of Las Cuevas that the archives of Christopher Columbus and, until 1609, of his descendants were preserved.⁶ All these facts certainly entitle Hoefnagel's fine sketch to a place in the present work.

Las Cuevas still exists, outwardly, as it stood in the days of Christopher Columbus. But the building is no longer a monastery. Everything inside has been destroyed or removed, leaving only naked walls, whitewashed with lime; and the chapels are now occupied by an English company which manufactures porcelain wares for the Seville market. Not only no vestiges remain of Columbus's grave or tombstone, but there are no local traditions as to its real position and appearance. Nay, the people in the neighbourhood do not even know that Las Cuevas was during more than thirty years the burial-place of the discoverer of America.

H. H.

Paris, October, 1893.

¹ *Christophe Colomb*, vol. ii., pages 141-144, 243, 261, 472.

² *Los restos de Don Cristoval Colon*, Sevilla, 1878, 8vo, pages 41-42.

³ Sr. Jacopo DE LA PEZUELA, *Historia de la isla de Cuba*, Madrid, 1868, vol. i., page 155.

⁴ We have seen it stated that GARIBAY, in a manuscript work, gives 1544 as the date when the remains of COLUMBUS were removed from Seville; but that "credulous compiler of old fables," as TICKNOR justly calls him, is so un-

reliable that before accepting his statement we would require some other proof. For instance, he is made to say in the same breath that Doña Maria DE TOLEDO died the next year; that is, in 1545. Now, her will is not dated till September 27, 1548, and she died on the 11th of May, 1549.—*Christophe Colomb*, vol. ii., pages 250, 511-521.

⁵ *Les sépultures de Christophe Colomb*, Paris, 1879, 8vo, pages 6-7.

⁶ *Autographes de Christophe Colomb récemment découverts*, page 6.



CODEX DIPLOMATICUS OF
CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS

1502



Patents Privileges
Warrants & other
Writings of Don
Christopher Columbus
High Admiral of the
Ocean Viceroy and
Governor of the
Islands and
Main Land



Cartas Breuilegios
Medulas y
Otras Escrituras de
Don xpoual Colon
Almirante Mayor
del Mar Oceano Vi
sorey y Sovernador de
las islas y Tierra Firme



[NOTE.—*The original CODEX on vellum is written on both sides of the leaf, and is here reproduced in the same form, but is interleaved with corresponding pages of transliteration and translation.*]

In the most noble and most loyal city of Seville, Wednesday the fifth day of the month of January, in the year of the nativity of our Saviour Jesus Christ one thousand five hundred and two. On this said day, at the hour when Vespers are said, or a little before or after, being

En la muy noble e muy leal çibdad de Sevilla, miercoles çinco dias del mes de enero, año del nascimiento de nuestro Salvador Jesu Christo de mill e quinientos e dos años. En este dicho dia a ora de bisperas dichas, poco mas o menos, estando en la posada del Señor Almirante delas Yndias que es enestadicha çibdad en la collaçion de Santa Maria, ante Estevan dela Roca e Pero Ruys Montero alcaldes ordinarios en esta dicha çibdad de Sevilla por el Rey e la Reyna nuestros Señores e en presençia de mi Martin Rodrigues escrivano publico desta dicha çibdad de Sevilla, e delos testigos yuso escriptos, pareçio ende presente el muy magnifico Señor Don Christoval Colon Almirante mayor del mar oceano, Viso rey e Governador delas yslas e tierra firme, e presento ante los dichos alcaldes çiertas cartas e privilegios e çedulas, delos dichos Rey e Reyna nuestros Señores escriptas en papel e pargamino e firmadas de sus reales nombres, e selladas con sus sellos de plomo pendientes en filos de seda a colores, e de çera colorada en las espaldas, e refrendadas de çiertos oficiales de su real casa, segund por ellas e por cada una dellas pareçia. El thenor delas quales una en pos de otra es este que se sigue.

in the dwelling house of the Lord Admiral of the Indies which is in this said city in the parish of St. Mary, before Stephen de la Roca and Peter Ruys Montero, ordinary Alcaldes in this said city of Seville for the King and Queen our Lords, and in the presence of me Martin Rodrigues, public scribe of this said city of Seville, and of the undermentioned witnesses, did appear there present the very magnificent Lord Don Christopher Columbus, High Admiral of the Ocean, Viceroy and Governor of the Islands and Main Land, and laid before the said Alcaldes certain patents and privileges and warrants of the said King and Queen our Lords, written on paper and parchment, and signed with their royal names, and sealed with their seals of lead hanging by threads of coloured silk, and with coloured wax on the back, and countersigned by certain officers of their royal household, as appeared in all and each of them. The tenor whereof, one after the other, is as follows.

The King and the Queen.

Francis de Soria, Lieutenant of our High

Admiral of Castile, We command you to give and to cause to be given to Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean, a copy, so authenticated as to obtain credence, of any letters of grace and privilege and confirmations which the said High Admiral of Castile holds of the said charge and office of Admiral, whereby he and others for him may obtain and collect the dues and other things appertaining to him in the said charge; for we have granted to the said Don Christopher Columbus the labour of having and enjoying the graces, honours, prerogatives, liberties, dues and salaries in the Admiralty of the Indies, which our said High Admiral has, holds and enjoys in the Admiralty of Castile. And this do and fulfil as soon as you are required by this our letter, without making any excuse or delay therein. And if you do not so perform and fulfil it, we command our Governor and other justices of the city of Seville to compel and force you to so perform and fulfil it. And neither you nor they shall do contrary thereto. Done in the city of Burgos, on the twenty-third day of the month of April of the year ninety-seven. **I** the King. **I** the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen, Ferdinand Albares.

El thenor delas quales una en pos de otra es este que se sigue.

El Rey e la Reyna. Francisco de Soria Lugarteniente de nuestro Almirante mayor de Castilla, nos vos mandamos que dedes e fagades dar a Don Christoval Colon, nuestro Almirante dela mar oceano, un traslado abtorizado, en manera que faga fee de quales quier cartas de merçed e privilegio, e confirmaçiones, quel dicho Almirante mayor de Castilla tiene del dicho cargo e oficio de Almirante, por donde el y otros por el lieven e cojan los derechos e otras cosas a ello pertenescientes conel dicho cargo, por que avemos fecho merçed al dicho Don Christoval Colon, que aya e goze delas merçedes e honrras e prerrogativas e libertades e derechos e salarios enel Almirantadgo delas Yndias que ha e tiene e goza el dicho nuestro Almirante mayor enel Almirantadgo de Castilla. Loqual fazed e complid luego como fuerdes requerido con esta nuestra carta, sin que enello pongays excusa ni dilaçion alguna. E sy ansi non lo fizierdes e cumplierdes, mandamos al nuestro Asistente e otras justiçias dela çibdad de Sevilla, que vos compellan e apremien alo asi fazer e complir. E non fagades ni fagan ende al. Fecha en la çibdad de Burgos, a veynte e tres dias del mes de abril de noventa e siete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Fernand Alvares.

En la muy nobl

Al muy leal abad & Senilla. mjercoles ana
dias del mes de enero. ano del nascimj & nro pñ
vabr ihu xpo. & mill e quicento e oß as.
En este dñho dia de ora & bisperas dhas pños mas
omenos. estando en la posada del Senor almirante
dhas yndias q es en esta dñha abad en la colla de Sanx maria. ant
estend dho lora e po fuyss mōtero allōs ordinarios en esta dñha
abad & Senilla por dñ fey e la Reyna nros señores. Al empedena
e mi muy foyss rōmuno publico desta dñha abad & Senilla. e dñs
tōngos yuso rōpays. Par dho en dñ present. Al muy magnifico señor
don xpoual colon almirante mayor del mar oceano. Viso fñy e gouer
nabr dñs yslas e tñra firme. Al present ant los dñs alcalas acitō
as e pñys e redulas. dñs dñs fñy e lync nros señores rōpays
en papel e pargamino e firma de dñs reales nombres. e sellado
con sus sellos de plomo pendientes en filos & seda de colores. e dñha
colorada en las espaldas. e lefrendadas & acitos oficiales de nro feal
cor. e gñm por ellas e por cada vna dñs pñas. Al tñnor de
las quales vna en pos de otra es rō q se sigue.

Al dy dñs dñs.



Francisco de foria lugar

tenyēn & nro almirat mayor de castilla. nos vos mandamos
q dñs e fagades dar. Al dñ xpoual colon. nro almirat & lunc
orono. Vntreslab aborizad. en mñna e fuga fee de quales
qñer cas & mñ e pñys. e confirmaciones. quel dñs almirante
mayor de castilla tiene de dñs cargo e oficio de almy. por dñs
Al y otros por el lieue e ofian. los derechos e otras asias a ello
pertenescentes con el dñs cargo. por q auemos fecho mñ dñ
dñ dñ xpoual colon. que aya e goze dñs mercedes e honrras
e prerrogatiuas e libertades e derechos e Salarios en el almy
dñs yndias q ha e tiene e goza el dñs nro almy. mayor en el
almy. de castilla. Lo q fagades e amplid luego como fuerdes
legrid a esta mñ ca. Sin q en ello pongays escuda ni dñno
alguna. Al dy asi nō lo fagades e cumplierdes. mandamos al
nro alistent e otras pñas dñs abad & Senilla. que vos
oñellan e dñpreme. aloasi fagades e amplid. Al nō fagades ni fa
gan en el dñ. fecha en la abad & burgos. a veyna e tre
dias del mes de abril & noneta e six anos. Yo Al fey. pola
Lyna. Por mandado del fey e dñs Lyna. fernand almaris.

Este es traslado de una escritura escrita en papel
e signada e firmada de romano e not publico segund por ella
parecia. Su tenor es la qual dice en esta guisa. En la villa
de Valladolid. estando ay la corte e chancilleria del Rey nro señor.
martes cinco dias del mes de Julio. año del nascimientto de nro
señor ihu xpo. de mill e quatroçientos e treynta e cinco años
don los señores oydores del dho señor Rey. por el fagimientto de
laçones en los palacios e cortes del señor don Erre de toledo obispo
de palencia oydores de la dho dñe dñe. Al qual se lo gao a los
tumbrales. a lo notimientto met e sucler faser. e faser abdena
publica e de la dho. los dho señores oydores. en presencia de nos
su nro de leos e po de la dñe de madrigal. romos de dho señor Rey
e de la dñe abdena. e que not publicos en la dñe corte. e en los
los sus señores e señores. e de los testigos yuso topados. Pa
resio yuso fagimientto de metina procurador en la corte
de dho señor Rey. en nobre e en los del señor almy. de faser.
Cuyo pr se dho. e presencia ante los dho señores oydores. que
fiso leer por nos e ante los dho romos. Una carta de pñ. de
dho señor Rey. de dñe en pergamino e en oro. e firmada
de su nombro. e sellada con un sello de plomo yendiete en filos
de seda. Al tenor de qual es lo que sigue. **Don** iohñ
por la gra de dios Rey de castilla de leon de aragon de galisia de
aragon de murcia de jahen de algarve de algeçira. e señor de
viscaya e de molina. atodos los perlados. maestros dñs ordo
dñs. vntos fijos omes. e a los de mi congo oydores dho mi dñ
dñe. Al qual e not e justia e otros ofiaes dho mi dñ
e chancilleria. e dho mi dñ e fustro. Al qual e not e mefros
mayores canceleros e de dñs. Al atodos los congos e fijos
e allas e algunos de mefros e prestans pñs e otros just
e ofiaes quales ser dñs nro noble abdad de Sevilla. e de
todas las otras abdades villas e logares dñs nro señores
e señores. Al a los capitanes dñs nro. e al mi armador dñ
flota e patron e amigos dñs nro galas. e dñs maestre
e marineros. e mareantes e otras personas quales ser que
nubegare por la corte e fiso. Al todos las otras e quales ser
dñs nro de qual ser es de dñs nro pñs e dignidad qñ
Al qñ dñs nro o atimientto pñs e lo yuso topado. o dñs nro
mi carta de pñ fuese mostrada. o el traslado dñs abdena
dñs e yuso de romano publico. Al amduos de vos. Sa
lad e grana e pñs. e vide una carta de pñ de dñs. e sellada
con un sello de plomo yendiete. qñ por mi mandado fue dada
don alfonso enrrup mi fijo mi dñs nro mayor de la corte. escrita
en pergamino e en oro. Su tenor es lo que sigue.
Quel nobre de dios padre e fijo topado Sancho e don qñ
personas e un solo dios de dñs nro Rey nro señore.
sancho. e de la bñe abdena dñs nro glñsa Sancho nro
Su madre e en yotengo por su ora e por abogadu

THIS is a copy of a document written on paper and signed and certified by a scrivener and notary public, as appeared thereby; the tenor whereof is expressed in this manner. In the town of Valladolid, the court and chancery of our Lord the King being there, on Tuesday the fifth day of the month of July, in the year of the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and thirty-five, before the Lords Auditors of our said Lord the King, sitting to make reports in the palaces and houses of the Lord Don Gutierre de Toledo, Bishop of Palencia, Auditor of the said chamber, in the palace and customary place, where the said Lords Auditors are continually accustomed to hold and do hold public audience and report, in the presence of us John Martinnes of Leon and Peter Garcia of Madrigal, scriveners of our said Lord the King and of his chamber, and his notaries public in his court and in all his kingdoms and dominions, and in the presence of the witnesses written below, appeared Gonzalo Fernandez de Medina, attorney here in the court of our said Lord the King, in the name and with the authority of the Lord Admiral Don Fadrique, whose attorney he declared himself to be, and presented before the said Lords Auditors, and caused to be read by us and before us the said scriveners, a patent of privilege of our said Lord the King, bearing the circle of signatures, written on parchment of skin, and signed with his name, and sealed with his seal of lead hanging by threads of silk; the tenor whereof is as follows. **DON** John, by the grace of God, King of Castile, Leon, Toledo, Galicia, Seville, Cordoba, Murcia, Jaen, Algarbe and Algeciras, and Lord of Biscay and Molina, to all prelates, masters of orders, dukes, counts and grandees, and to the members of my council and auditors of my chamber, and to the alcaldes, notaries, justices and other officers of my court and chancery, and of my palace and precinct, and to governors, chief justices, knights and esquires, and to all counsellors, magistrates, alcaldes, bailiffs, judges, prestameros, probosts and other justices and officers whomsoever of the most noble city of Seville, and of all the other cities and towns and places of my kingdoms and dominions, and to the captains of the sea, and to my superintendent of the fleet, and to the masters and boatswains of my galleys, and to masters, mariners, merchants and other persons whomsoever who navigate by sea and river, and all and any other persons of whatsoever state, and condition, pre-eminence or dignity they may be, to whom what is written below appertains or may appertain, or to whom this my patent of privilege may be shown, or the copy thereof authenticated and signed by a public scrivener, and to each of you, health and grace. Know ye that I have seen a patent of privilege bearing the circle of signatures, and sealed with my seal of lead hanging thereto, which by my command was given to Don Alfonso Enriques, my uncle, my High Admiral of the sea, written on parchment of skin, the tenor whereof is as follows. **IN THE NAME** of God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, who are three persons and one only true God, who reigns for ever and ever, and of the most blessed glorious Virgin Saint Mary his mother, whom I regard as my sovereign and as intercessor

ESTE es traslado de una escriptura escripta en papel e signada e firmada de escrivano e notario publico, segund por ella parecia, su thenor dela qual dize en esta guisa. EN LA villa de Valladolid, estando ay la corte e chancilleria del Rey nuestro Señor, martes cinco dias del mes de Jullio, año del nacimiento de nuestro Señor Jesu Christo de mill e quatrocientos e treynta e cinco años, ante los Señores Oydores del dicho Señor Rey, estando faziendo relaciones en los palacios e casas del señor don Gutierre de Toledo obispo de Palencia oydor dela dicha abdiencia, en el palacio e logar acostumbrado, ado continua mente se suelen fazer e fassen abdiencia publica e relacion los dichos señores oydores, en presençia de nos Juan Martinnes de Leon e Pero Garcia de Madrigal, escrivanos del dicho Señor Rey e dela suabdiencia, e sus notarios publicos en la su corte, e en todos los sus reynos e señorios, e delos testigos yuso escriptos, parescio Gonçalo Fernandez de Medina procurador aqui en la corte del dicho Señor Rey, en nombre e en boz del señor almirante don Fadrique, cuyo procurador se dixo, e presento ante los dichos señores oydores, que fizo leer por nos e ante

nos los dichos escrivanos, una carta de privilegio del dicho Señor Rey, rodado, escripto en pergamino de cuero, e firmado de su nombre, e sellado con su sello de plomo pendiente en filos de seda. El thenor del qual es este que se sigue. DON Johan por la gracia de Dios Rey de Castilla, de Leon, de Toledo, de Galizia, de Sevilla, de Cordova, de Murcia, de Jaben, del Algarbe, de Algezira, e Señor de Vizcaya e de Molina, a todos los perlados, maestros delas ordenes, duques, condes, ricos omes, e alos del mi consejo oydores dela mi abdiencia, e alcaldes, e notarios, e justicias, e otros oficiales dela mi corte e chancilleria, e dela mi casa e rastro, e adelantados e merinos mayores, cavalleros, escuderos, e a todos los conçejos, regidores e alcaldes e alguasiles, merinos e prestameros, prebostes e otras justicias e oficiales quales quier dela muy noble çibdad de Sevilla, e de todas las otras çibdades e villas e logares delos mis reynos e señorios, e alos capitanes dela mar, e al mi armador dela flota, e patrones e comitres delas mis galeas, e alos maestros e marineros e marcantes e otras personas quales quier que navegaren por la mar e rio, e todas las otras e quales quier personas de qual quier estado e condiçion, prebeminencia, o dignidad que sean, a quien atañe o atañer puede lo yuso escripto, o a quien esta mi carta de privilegio fuere mostrada, o el traslado della abtorizado e sygnado de escrivano publico, e a cada uno de vos, Salud e gracia sepades, que vide una carta de privilegio rodado, e sellada con mi sello de plomo pendiente, que por mi mandado fue dado a Don Alfonso Enriques mi tio mi Almirante mayor dela mar, escripta en pargamino de cuero, su thenor del qual es este que se sigue. EN EL nonbre de Dios Padre e Fijo e Spiritu Santo que son tres personas e un solo Dios verdadero que reyna por sienpre jamas, E dela bien aventurada Virgen gloriosa Sancta Maria Su madre a quien yo tengo por Señora e por abogada

en todos mis fechos e a honrra e serviçio del bien aventurado Apostol Santiago, luz e espejo de todas las Españas e patron, e guiador delos Reyes de Castilla mis antecessores e mio e de todos los Santos e Santas dela corte çelstial e por que es natural cosa todos los que bien sirven alos Reyes con linpia voluntad, en lo qual han grande trabajo e afan que reçiban por ende grande galardon dello, por que sea grande refrigerio e consolacion de sus afanes, e otrosy, por que esta bien alos Reyes de dar galardon alos que bien le sirven, lo uno por faser lo que deven, lo otro por que sea enxenplo alos que lo supieren e oyeren, por que de mejor myente le sirvan, el Rey que lo faze ha de catar enello tres cosas, la primera que merçed es aquella que faze la segunda quien es aquel a quien la haze e como se la mereçe e la tercera que es el pro o el daño que le puede venir si la hiziere, por ende yo acatando e considerando todo esto e otrosi los muchos e buenos serviçios que vos don Alonso Enrriques mi tio, e mi adelantado mayor de la mar, fezistes al Reydon Johan de esclaresçida memoria mi abuelo, que Dios de santo parayso, e al Rey don Enrrique mi

padre e Señor que Dios perdone e avedes fecho e fazedes a mi de cada dia e el linaje de donde vos venides e el debdo que con vusco he e quien vos soys e por vos dar galardon dellos, quiero que sepan por este mi previllejo todos los omes que agora son o seran de aqui adelante, como yo don Johan por la graçia de Dios Rey de Castilla, de Leon, de Toledo, de Galizia, de Sevilla, de Cordova, de Murçia, de Jaben, del Algarve, de Algezira, e Señor de Viscaya e de Molina, vi una carta del dicho señor Rey don Enrrique my padre e mi señor, que Dios perdone, escripta en papel e firmada de su nonbre e sellada con su sello en las espaldas, fecha en esta guisa. DON Enrrique por la graçia de Dios Rey de Castilla, de Leon, de Toledo, de Galizia, de Sevilla, de Cordova, de Murçia, de Jaben, del Algarve, de Algezira, e Señor de Viscaya e de Molina, por faser bien e merçed a vos don Alfonso Enrriques mi tio por los muchos e leales e señalados serviçios, que fezistes al Rey don Johan mi padre e mi Señor, que Dios perdone, e avedes fecho e fazedes a mi de cada dia, e por vos dar galardon dellos, fago vos mi Almirante mayor dela mar, e quiero e es mi merçed que seades de aqui adelante mi Almirante mayor dela mar, segund que lo solia ser el Almirante don Diego Furtado de Mendoça que es finado, e que ayades el dicho Almirantadgo con todas las rentas e derechos e juridiciones que le perteneçen e perteneçer deven, en qual quier manera, segund mejor e mas conplida mente los avia

in all my doings, and to the honour and service of the most blessed Apostle Saint James, the light and mirror of all the Spains and patron and guide of the Kings of Castile my predecessors and mine; and of all the saints of the celestial court. Now since it is natural that all those who serve kings well and with sincere disposition, in a service wherein they have great labour and toil, should receive large reward on account thereof, in order that it may be a great comfort and consolation for their distresses, and likewise because it is well for kings to give reward to those who serve them well, firstly in order to do what they ought, secondly in order that it may be an example to those who may know it or hear of it, so that they may serve them with better disposition: the king who does this must consider three things therein, firstly what labour it is which he confers, secondly who it is upon whom he confers it and how far it is deserved, thirdly what is the gain or the loss which may accrue to him if he should confer it: wherefore I, taking into account and considering all this and likewise the many and good services which you Don Alfonso Enriques my uncle, and my high prefect of the sea, rendered to King Don John of illustrious memory, my grandfather, to whom may God grant his holy paradise, and to King Don Henry my father and lord, whom may God pardon, and have rendered and do render to me daily, and the lineage from which you come, and the duty which I owe you, and who you are, and to give you reward for them, do will that all men that now are or henceforth shall be may know by this my privilege that I Don John by the grace of God King of Castile, Leon, Toledo, Galicia, Seville, Cordoba, Murcia, Jaen, Algarbe and Algeciras, and Lord of Biscay and Molina, have seen a patent of the said Lord King Don Henry my father and my lord, whom may God pardon, written on paper and signed with his name and sealed on the back with his seal, drawn up in this manner. **DON** Henry by the grace of God King of Castile, Leon, Toledo, Galicia, Seville, Cordoba, Murcia, Jaen, Algarbe and Algeciras, and Lord of Biscay and Molina, in order to confer labour and grace on you Don Alfonso Enriques, my uncle, for the many and loyal and special services which you rendered to King Don John my father and my lord, whom God pardon, and have rendered and do render to me daily and to give you reward for them, I make you my High Admiral of the sea, and it is my will and pleasure that you shall be from henceforth my High Admiral of the sea, in the same manner as Don Diego Furtado de Mendoça, deceased, used to be, and that you hold the said Admiralty with all the revenues, rights and jurisdictions which belong and ought to belong thereto in whatsoever manner, according as they were best and most completely possessed by

en to d e m y f h o e p a h o m m a e G e r m a n d l b a d e n t u r a d a p o s
 t o l S a n t i a g o l i n g e d y e j o d t o d a s . l a s e s p a n a e p a t r o . p l
 g y u d r . d l o s d y s d c o n e l l a m y s d u r a G o r e e m y o l t d e
 d o l o S a n t o s . e S a n t a s . d l a . o r t e l i f t a t e p o r q d o
 n a t u r a l a o n t o d e l o s G b u n d S i r n r a l o s d y s d l i m p l a d o
 l m a n d t a l o q u a l . h a n g r a n d m i l a s o G a f a n e d a n b a n . p o r
 e n d g r a n d g u l a r d o n . d l o d i q d e a g r a n d d i f i g u r o c o n
 G o l a n a d e S a n d l f m e . d t o g r o y d i q r o n b i e n . d l o s d y s d
 d u r g u l a r d n . d l o s q b i e n l e S i n e n . l i d m y d i f a d l o q d u r
 l i o t r o d o q d e a G y e m p l o d l o s q l o G a p e r e n d o p e r e n
 d d q d m y l b m y e n d e S i r m i . d l d y d l o f a h a d d e n t a l l o
 d l t o n t . l a p m i a q m d r e d l a l i . G f o r l i G e g m d n q u e n
 e s d l q u i d d i q u i e n l e h a s e e a m y . G l a m r e f e l i t d a r a
 q e s . d l p r o f e d l d a n r q l r p m d d e m y z S i l i f s i e r e p o r
 l e n d e y d d a t a m d p a n G i d r a n d t o d o r o f d t o r S i l o s
 m u l h o s e l u m n o s G d y a o s . d u s d n p l o n g e e n r r i g e m y
 t o e m y d l a n r d . l m y o r d l e m i f r a f e s . d l d y . d n f n
 d e f d a r c a d a m m o r a m y a b m l o q . d u o s d . S a n u p a n
 G f o . p a t d y . d n . e n r r i g i n p a d r e G m r q d u o s p e r d e
 m e e a d e d s f h o . d l f a s d o d l m y d a d a d u e d l i m i s e d
 d u n d v o o d e m y d e e l d l b q d u n f a f e G e n d o s d o y e
 d l p o r d o s d a r g u l a r d n . d l o s q u e r o s G y e n . p o r
 e f t e m y p r e m l l e s a t o d e l o s . o m e q l d G r a G o n e G y n n
 d a q u i a d a m y . a m y G y d n i h a d a d a g r a d e d y o s d y d a o n
 d l e o d . v o l e b l g u l i s a d e d i m e l l a d u r d n a d u n d a d
 l a h e n . d l a l g a r n e d l e g r s u n e G m r d d i f a y a e d
 m u l h o s d i d n a a d d l o d y o m a t y . d n e n r r i g m y p a
 d z d m y d m o i . q d u o s p d n r o p t a G y p a l e f o r m a d e n
 G n m u n b i e G e l l a d a d n d i d l l o G y l o s e s p a l d a e f i h a
 G y o e G y f a . d o n e n r r i g d l i G y d d u o s d y . d o
 c o n e l l a d l f r o n d t o l o d d G u l i s a . d . G r u l l a d o r
 d n a d m d m d l a h o n d l a l g a r n e d l e G s i r a l d m y
 d d i f a y a e d m o l m e d d f o o b n e m d . d u o s d n d
 a l f o n e n r r i g s . m y t i o d . l o s m u l h o s d l a l e e G m l a
 d o G d y a o s e f r a s t e a l d y . d n u h a n m y p a d r e
 m y d r o n e . d d u o s p e r d n r e a d e s s f h o e f n d e
 A m y d a d a d u i d l . p o r d o s d a r g u l a n d o n d l o s f i g
 d o o m y a l m y m a y d d a m e r . d l q u i e r o e r o m y m d . q u e
 p r a d e d t o n a d d i n a m y d l m y e m d e d l a m e r . G e m d q
 l o G l i n G r e l a l m y d n d i f u r t u d e d m e n d a r G s f i n a l e
 d l G a y a d o d l e d i f d l m y c a p d y o . a d o l o l o s d l m e n t e
 e d y o e l u n d i o n o s G l e p t e m y e p t e m d d u r . e n q
 G l m e n t e . G e m d m o f o r e m y a d y d a m y l o s d u r

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the said Don Diego Furtado and the other Admirals who have been up to this time. And by this my patent I command all prelates and masters, counts, grandees, knights and esquires and all counsellors, alcaides, bailiffs, judges, prestanieros, probosts and other justices whomsoever, of the most noble city of Seville and of all the other cities, towns and places of my kingdoms and dominions, and captains of the sea, and my superintendent of the fleet, and the masters and boatswains of my galleys, and the masters, mariners, merchants and other persons whatsoever who may traverse and navigate the sea, and each and all of them, to receive and obey you the said Don Alonso Enríques, as my High Admiral of the sea in all things which appertain to the said office of Admiralty, and in each separately, and to pay and cause to be paid to you all the revenues and dues which by right of the said office belong and ought to belong to you, well and completely, in such manner that you may not suffer loss in any thing, according as they best and most completely received, obeyed and rendered payment to the said Admiral Don Diego Furtado and the other Admirals that have been until now. And by this my patent I give you my full and complete power, in order that you may be able to exercise and may exercise the civil and criminal jurisdiction which belongs and ought to belong to the said office of Admiralty in any manner whatsoever, in all the rights of the sea, both to issue letters of marque and to judge all the suits which may arise at sea and also in the harbours and their environs, as far as the salt water enters and vessels navigate, and that you the said Admiral may have the power of appointing and may appoint your alcaides, bailiffs, scribes and officers in all the towns and places of my kingdoms which are sea-ports, and that they may take cognizance of and may decide all the suits, criminal and civil, which may arise at sea and in the river where the currents rise and fall, in accordance with the manner in which my other former Admirals most fully and completely appointed them and in which you will appoint them in the said city of Seville. And by this my patent I command the members of my council and the auditors of my chamber, the alcaides of my court, and all the other justices of the said towns and places of the sea-ports, and of my kingdoms, not to intermeddle in taking cognizance of and deciding the said suits, nor to disturb you or your said officers belonging to your said jurisdiction, whom you may appoint in your stead to take cognizance of the said suits in the manner aforesaid. And moreover I command my High Chancellor, notaries, scribes and other officers whomsoever who are in the commission of my seals, to give, deliver and seal for you my strongest, firmest and most sufficient patents of privileges, with the greatest securities that may be needful, and according as they were given to the other Admirals

el dicho don Diego Furtado e los otros Almirantes que fasta aqui han sydo, e por esta mi carta mando a todos los perlados e maestres, condes, ricos omes, cavalleros e escuderos, e a todos los conçejos e alcaides, e alguaziles, e merinos e prestameros e prebostes e otras justicias, quales quier, dela muy noble çibdad de Sevilla e de todas las otras çibdades e villas e logares delos mis reynos e señorios, e alos capitanes dela mar, e al mi armador dela flota, e patrones, e comitres delas mis galeas, e alos maestres e marineros e marcan-tes e otras presonas quales quier que andovieren e navegaren por la mar, e a qual quier o quales quier dellos, que vos ayan e obedescan a vos el dicho don Alonso Enríques, por mi Almirante mayor dela mar en todas las cosas e cada una delas, que al dicho oficio de Almirantadgo pertenescen, e que vos recudan e fagan recudir con todas las rentas e derechos que por razon del dicho oficio pertenecen e pertenecer vos deven, bien e conplida mente en guisa que vos non

mengue ende cosa alguna, segund que mejor e mas conplida mente avian e obedecian e recudian al dicho Almirante don Diego Furtado e alos otros Almirantes. que fasta aqui han seydo. E por esta mi carta vos do todo mi poder conplida mente, para que podades usar e usesdes dela juridicion çevil e erreninal, que al dicho oficio de Almirantadgo pertenece e pertenecer deve en qual quier manera en todos los derechos dela mar, asy para dar cartas de represarias e judgar todos los plitos que enella acaesciere, como enlos puertos e enlos lugares dellos, fasta do entra el agua salada e navegan los navios, e que vos el dicho Almirante ayades poder de poner e pongades vuestros alcaides e alguasiles y escrivanos e ofiçiales en todas las villas e logares delos mis reynos que son puertos de mar, e para que conoscan e libren todos los plitos criminales e çeviles que acaescieren enla mar e enel rio donde llegaren las creçientes e menguaren segund e enla manera que mejor e mas conplida mente los otros mis Almirantes pasados lo pusieron e pusierdes enla dicha çibdad de Sevilla. E por esta mi carta mando alos del mi consejo e alos oydores dela mi abdiencia e alcaides dela mi corte e a todas las otras justicias delas dichas villas e lugares delos puertos dela mar, e delos mis reynos, que se non entremetan de conoscer e librar los dichos pleytos ni perturbar a vos ni alos dichos vuestros ofiçiales dela dicha vuestra juridicion que pusierdes por vos para conoscer delos dichos plitos enla manera que dicha es. E sobre esto mando al mi chançiller mayor e notarios e escrivanos e otros ofiçiales quales quier que estan enla tabla delos mis sellos que vos den e libren e sellen mis cartas de previllejos las mas fuertes e firmes e bastantes e con mayores firmesas que fueren menester e segund fueron dadas alos otros Almirantes

vuestros antecesores, o a qual quier dellos, que mas complida mente lo ovieron, e los unos ni los otros non fagades ende al por alguna manera, so pena dela mi merced. E desto mando dar esta mi carta firmada de mi nonbre, e sellada con mi sello dela poridad. Dada en la çibdad de Toro, a quatro dias del mes de Abril, año del nascimiento de nuestro Salvador Jesu Christo de mill e quatroçientos e çinco años. Yo Juan Martines Chanciller del Rey la fis escrivir por su mandado. Yo el Rey. Registrada. E agora el dicho don Alfonso Enriques mi tio e mi Almirante mayor dela mar, pidiome por merced que le confirmase la dicha carta del dicho Rey mi padre e mi Señor, que Dios perdone, e las mercedes enella contenidas e gelas mandase guardar e conplir en todo e por todo, segund que enla dicha carta se contiene, mandandole dar mi carta de privilegio escripta en pergamino de cuero, e sellada con mi sello de plomo pendiente, para que mejor e mas complida mente el pudiese gosar e gossase del dicho oficio de Almirantadgo, e delas dichas mercedes enla dicha carta del dicho Señor Rey mi padre contenidas, e otrosy para que le recudiesen con todas las rentas e derechos, e le fuesen guardadas, e oviese todas las juridiciones e franquasas e privilegios e libertades que le perteneçen e perteneser deven en qualquier manera por rason del dicho Almirantadgo, segund que mejor e mas complida mente lo ovieron los otros mis Almirantes sus antecesores o qual quier dellos enla dicha carta del dicho Señor Rey mi padre e mi Señor, que Dios perdone, se contienen. E yo el sobre dicho Rey don Juan por faser bien e merced al dicho don Alfonso Enriques mi tio e mi Almirante mayor dela mar, tovelo por bien, e confirmole la dicha carta del dicho Rey mi padre e las mercedes enella contenidas, e mando que valan e que sean guardadas en todo e por todo bien e complida mente segund que enla dicha carta se contienen. E por este mi privilegio o por el traslado del signado de escrivano publico, sacado con abtoridad de juez o de alcalde, mando a todos los perlados, maestros, priores delas ordenes, e condes, e ricos omes, e comendadores e subcomendadores, cavalleros, escuderos, e alos del mi consejo, e alos oydores dela mi abdiencia e alcaldes e alguasiles dela mi corte, e a todos los conçejos e alcaldes e alguasiles e merinos e prestameros e prebostes, alcaýdes delos castillos e casas fuertes e llanas, e otras justicias e oficiales e aportellados quales quier dela muy noble çibdat de Sevilla e de todas las otras çibdades e villas e logares delos nuestros reynos e señorios, e alos capitanes dela mar e patrones e comitres e navicheles, maestros delas naos e galeas, e al mi armador dela flota, e alos marineros e marcantes, e a todos los omes dela mar e rio, e alos pescadores e barqueros que navegaren por la mar e rio, e a todos los otros que andan enla mi flota e fuera della en qual quier manera, o en quales quier navios que anduvieren de aquí adelante de qual quier estado e condiçion

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they may be, that you and they do hold and receive the said Alfonso Enríques, my uncle, as my High Admiral of the sea in all parts of my said kingdoms and dominions, and that you act under him in the said office of the said Admiralty and civil and criminal jurisdiction, appearing upon his citations and summonses or upon those of the persons whom he may appoint in his stead, according as your predecessors and you acted under the said Admirals who were in the time of the kings from whom I descend, or towards any one of them, and that you act similarly in respect of the said patent of the said King my father and my lord, whom God pardon, and that you pay and cause to be paid all the revenues and dues which belong and ought to belong to the said office of Admiralty in whatsoever manner and by whatsoever right that may exist, and likewise that you obey him and execute his command, as that of my High Admiral of the sea, and as you would do in my own presence and for my royal person. And likewise I ordain and command that if any person or persons of the sea or of the said rivers should do anything on sea or in the river or elsewhere for which it may be necessary to prosecute and punish him or them, or if they should be disobedient to the said Don Alfonso Enríques my uncle and to his officers appointed by him in his stead, on sea or in the river or on land, that the said Admiral may have power to execute and may order to be executed and may execute justice upon him or upon them, and inflict or order to be inflicted on the spot the punishment or punishments which they have legally deserved. And I ordain that of all the gains which my said High Admiral may receive or make in my fleet or at sea, I shall receive two parts and the said Admiral the third part, he going in his own person in the said fleet, even though the said fleet or part thereof may go away by his order or without his order, and likewise in the case of all galleys which I may order to be equipped apart from the fleet for the purpose of making gains, that of the gain which I may receive I am to have two parts and the said Admiral the third part. Likewise I ordain and command that in the case of all galleys, ships, galleots, vessels and other foists whatsoever which may be equipped for other parts whereof the fifth part is payable to me, I am to receive two-thirds of the said fifth and the said Admiral one-third thereof. Likewise I ordain that whenever my said Admiral shall fit out a vessel by my command, he may have power to take and may take any four men who may be under arrest, being accused of any crime whatsoever for which they ought to be condemned to death, who may go and come embarked or to embark in the said city of Seville and any other ports of my kingdoms and dominions, that my said Admiral may be able to place to his own account the third part for such person or persons, according to the price or prices at which they may come embarked or to embark. Likewise I ordain that my said Admiral shall have my said Admiralty and fleet and jurisdiction, civil and

que sean, que ayades e ayan e recibades e reciban al dicho Alfonso Enríques mi tío por mi Almirante mayor dela mar en todas las partes delos dichos mis reynos e señorios, e que usedes conel enel dicho oficio del dicho Almirantadgo e juridición çivill e criminal, e vengays a sus llamamientos e emplazamientos o delos que el por sy pusiere, segund que mejor e mas conplida mente usaron e usastes con los dichos Almirantes que fueron en tiempo delos Reyes donde yo vengo o con qual quier dellos, e otrosi enla dicha carta del dicho Rey mi padre e mi Señor que Dios perdone, e que recudades e fagades recudir con todas las rentas e derechos que al dicho oficio de Almirantadgo perteneçen e perteneçer deven en qual quier manera, e por qual quier rason que sea, e otrosi que lo obedescades e fagades su mandado asi como de mi Almirante mayor dela mar, e como fariades por mi cuerpo mesmo e por mi persona real. E otrosi tengo por bien e mando que sy alguno o algunos dela mar e delos dichos rios fizieren enla mar o

enel rio o fuera porque menester sea fazer derecho del, e justiçia enel o enellos, o sy le fueren desobidientes al dicho don Alfonso Enríques mi tío e a sus oficiales que el por sy pusiere enla mar o enel rio, o en tierra, que el dicho Almirante pueda faser e mandar faser e faga la justiçia enel o enellos, e deles dar o mandar dar ay, la pena o penas, que de derecho merescieren aver. E tengo por bien que todas las ganancias que el dicho mi Almirante mayor oviere o fiziere enla mi flota o por la mar, que aya Yo las doss partes, e el dicho Almirante la terçia parte, e yendo el por su cuerpo mesmo enla dicha flota, aunque la dicha flota o parte della se aparte por su mando, o syn su mandado, e otrosi que todas las galeas que yo mandare armar syn flota para ganar, que dela ganancia que oviere, que aya Yo las doss partes, e el dicho Almirante la terçia parte. Otrosy tengo por bien e mando que todas las galeas e naos e galeotas e leños e otras fustas quales quier, que armaren a otras partes de que Yo aya de aver el quinto, que Yo aya las doss partes deste dicho quinto, e el dicho Almirante la terçia parte del. E otrosi tengo por bien que cada que el dicho mi Almirante fiziere armar por mi mandado, que pueda sacar e saque quatro omes acusados de qual quier maleficio, por que devan ser condenados de muerte, que esten presos, quales quier que fueren e vinieren enla dicha çibdad de Sevilla, e otros puertos quales quier delos mis reynos e señorios flotados o por flotar, que pueda el dicho mi Almirante cargar la terçia parte enel o enellos para si, segund el presçio o presçios que vinieren flotados o flotare. Otrosi tengo por bien que el dicho mi Almirante que aya el dicho mi Almirantadgo e avelaje e juridición çivill e

criminal, bien e conplida mente, en todos los puertos e logares de todos los mis reynos e señorios que sean puertos de mar asi como la dicha çibdad de Sevilla, con todas las fuerças e derechos que al dicho ofiçio de Almirantazgo perteneçen e perteneçer deven en qual quier manera. E otrosy, que aya e pueda usar e use el e los que por sy pusiere, dela dicha juridiçion çivill e criminal en qual quier manera, en todos los dichos puertos dela mar e las villas e logares dellos, asi para dar cartas de represarias e judgar todos los plitos, que en la dicha mar e rio acaesçieren, como en los dichos puertos e villas e logares dellos, fasta donde entra agua salada o navegan los navios, e que el dicho Almirante ponga sus alcaldes e alguasyles e escrivanos e ofiçiales en todas las villas e logares delos mis reynos e señorios que son puertos de mar, para que conozcan e libren todos los plitos criminales e çiviles que acaesçieren en la mar o en el rio por donde llegare la creciente e menguare, segund e en la manera que mejor e mas conplida mente los otros Almirantes, o qual quier dellos, los pusieron en la dicha çibdad de Sevilla. E mando a los sobre dichos del mi consejo, e oydores dela mi abdiencia, e alcaldes dela dicha mi corte, e a todas las otras justiçias delas dichas villas e logares delos dichos puertos dela mar delos dichos mis reynos, que se non entremetan de conoçer ni librar los dichos plitos, ni de perturbar ni perturben al dicho mi Almirante ni a los dichos sus ofiçiales que el por sy pusiere para conoçer delos dichos plitos en la manera que dicha es, la dicha juridiçion çivill ni criminal ni parte della, e defiendo firme mente que ninguno ni algunos non sean osados de yr ni pasar contra la dicha carta del dicho señor Rey mi padre e mi Señor que Dios perdone, ni contra las merçedes ni franquezas ni libertades en ella e en esto dicho mi previllegio contenidas ni contra parte dellas, agora ni de aqui adelante para gelos quebrantar o menguar ninguna ni alguna dellas. E qual quier o quales quier que lo contrario fizieren o contra ello o contra parte dello fuesen o pasasen avrian la mi yra e pechar meyan en pena por cada vegada que contra ello fuesen o pasasen, doss mill doblas castillanas de fino oro e de justo peso, e al dicho mi Almirante mayor o a quien su bos toviese todos los daños e menoscabos que porende rescibiese doblados, e demas, a los cuerpos e alo que tovesen me tornaria por ello. E mando alas dichas justiçias e a cada uno de vos en vuestros lugares e juridiçiones, que prendades en bienes de aquel o aquellos que contra ello o contra parte dello fueren o pasaren o quisieren

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to oppose or contrabene it, or any part of it, the equivalent of the said penalty of the said two thousand doblas from each person for each time, and to retain them for disposal according to my good pleasure. And likewise you shall compensate and cause to be compensated my said High Admiral, or whoever may have his said procuration, by double for all the said damages and losses, which he may suffer from the said cause, as aforesaid. And further, whoever you may be through whom it may remain undone and unfulfilled, I command the person who shall present this my privilege, or a transcript thereof signed as aforesaid, to cite you to appear before me wherever I may be, you the said counsellors by your authorized attorneys and one or two of the officers of every city or town where this may occur, personally, with the procuration of the other officers your colleagues, within fifteen days following the day of citation, under the said penalty, to state the reason why you have not executed my order. And I command, under the said penalty, that any public scrivener who may be summoned for such purpose shall thereupon deliberate to the person presenting this patent a certificate signed with his signature, in order that I may know in what manner my order is executed, and hereof I command you to deliberate to the said Don Alfonso Enríques, my uncle, and my High Admiral of the sea, this my privilege written on parchment of skin, bearing the circle of signatures and sealed with my seal of lead fastened with threads of silk. Given in the town of Valladolid on the seventeenth day of August in the year of the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and sixteen. **AND** I the abovesaid King Don John, reigning together with the Queen Donna Catherine, my mother and my Lady and my Guardian and Regent of my kingdoms, and with the Infanta Donna Catherine, my sister, in Castile, Leon, Toledo, Galicia, Seville, Cordoba, Murcia, Jaen, Baeza, Badajoz, Algarve, Algeciras, Biscay and Molina, grant this privilege and confirm it. The Infant Don John, cousin of the said Lord the King and his High Steward, confirms it. Don Henry his brother, cousin of the said Lord the King, Master of Santiago, confirms it. The Infant Don Peter his brother, cousin of the said Lord the King, confirms it. Don Louis de Guzman, Master of the order of the Knights of Calatrava, confirms it. Don Peter, Lord of Monte Alegre, Vassal of the King, confirms it. Don Louis de la Cerda, Count of Medinaceli, Vassal of the King, confirms it. Don Paul, Bishop of Burgos, High Chancellor of the King, confirms it. Don Lope de Mendoza, Archbishop of Santiago, High Chaplain of the King, confirms it. Don Father Alfonso, Bishop of Sigüenza, confirms it. Don John, Bishop of Segovia, confirms it. Don Diego, Bishop of Cuenza, confirms it. Don Gonzalo de

yr o pasar, por la dicha pena delas dichas doss mill doblas, a cada uno por cada vegada, e las guarden para faser dellas lo que la mi merced fuere. E otrosi que emendades e fagades emendar al dicho mi Almirante mayor o a quien la dicha su boz toviere, de todos los dichos daños e menoscabos, que por la dicha rason resçibiere doblados como dicho es, e demas, por qual quier o quales quier por quien fincare dello asi faser e complir, mando alome que este mi privilegio mostrar e el traslado sygnado como dicho es, que vos enplase que parescades ante mi do quier que yo sea, vos los dichos conçejos por vuestros procuradores suficientes e uno o dos de los oficiales de cada cibdad o villa do esto acaesçiere personalmente con procuracion delos otros oficiales vuestros compañeros, del dia que vos enplasaren en quinze dias primeros syguientes, sola dicha pena, a desyr por qual rason no conplides mi mandado. E mando sola dicha pena a qual quier escrivano publico que para esto fuere llamado que de

ende al que vosla mostrar e testimonio sygnado con su sygno, por que yo sepa en como se comple mi mandado e desto le mando dar al dicho don Alfonso Enriques mi tio e mi Almirante mayor dela mar este mi privilegio escripto en pargamino de cuero, rodado e sellado con mi sello de plomo colgado en filos de seda. Dada en la villa de Valladolid dies e syete dias de Agosto, año del nascimiento de nuestro Señor Jesu Christo de mill e quatroçientos e dies e seys años. E Yo el sobredicho Rey don Juan reynante en uno con la Reyna doña Catalina mi madre e mi Señora e mi tutura e regidora delos mis reynos e con la ynfanta doña Catalina mi hermana, en Castilla e en Leon e en Toledo e en Galizia, e en Sevilla e en Cordova, e en Murcia e en Jaben e en Baeça e en Badajoz e en el Algarbe e en Algezira e en Vizcaya e en Molina otorgo este privilegio e confirmolo. El ynfante don Juan primo del dicho Señor Rey e su mayordomo mayor confirma. Don Enrique su hermano, primo del dicho Señor Rey, maestre de Sanctiago, confirma. El ynfante Don Pedro su hermano primo del dicho Señor Rey confirma. Don Luys de Guzman maestre dela orden dela Cavalleria de Calatrava confirma. Don Pedro Señor de Montalegre vasallo del Rey confirma. Don Luys dela Çerda Conde de Medina Celi, vasallo del Rey confirma. Don Pablo Obispo de Burgos, Chançiller mayor del Rey confirma. Don Lope de Mendoza Arçobispo de Santiago, capellan mayor del Rey confirma. Don fray Alfonso Obispo de Santiago [Sigüenza] confirma. Don Johan Obispo de Segovia confirma. Don Diego Obispo de Cuença, confirma. Don Gonzalo de

Cuñiga Obispo de Placencia confirma. Don Diego Gomes de Sandoval Adelantado mayor de Murcia confirma. Don Johan Ramires de Arellano Señor delos Cameros, vasallo del Rey confirma. Don García Fernandes Marrique Señor de Aguilar, vasallo del Rey confirma. Yñigo Lopes de Mendoça Señor dela Vega vasallo del Rey confirma. Yo Juan Fernandes de Palencia escrivano del dicho Señor Rey fis escrivir por su mandado en el año dezeno que el dicho Señor Rey reyno. Fernandus Bachalaureus en legibus Alfonso. Registrada. E agora el dicho Don Alfonso Enriques Almirante mayor dela mar, pidiome por merçed que le confirmase el dicho privilegio de merçed aqui contenido, e gelo mandase guardar en todo bien e conplida mente segund que en el se contiene. E yo el sobre dicho Rey don Juan por faser bien e merçed al dicho don Alfonso Enriques mi tio e mi Almirante mayor dela mar, e acatando al debdo que conmigo ha e los muchos e buenos e señalados servicios que fizo al Rey don Juan mi abuelo e al Rey don

Zuñiga, Bishop of Placencia confirms it. Don Diego Gomes de Sandoval, High Prefect of Murcia, confirms it. Don John Ramires de Arellano, Lord of Los Cameros, Vassal of the King, confirms it. Don Garcia Fernandes Marrique, Lord of Aguilar, Vassal of the King, confirms it. Ignatius Lopes de Mendoça, Lord of La Vega, Vassal of the King, confirms it. I, John Fernandes of Palencia, Scribener of the said Lord the King, have caused it to be written by his command in the tenth year of the reign of the said Lord the King. Ferdinand, Bachelor of Laws, Alfonso. Registered. And now the said Don Alfonso Enriques, High Admiral of the sea, has prayed me as a labour to confirm to him the said privilege of labour herein contained, and to command that it be preserved to him in all things, fully and completely, according to what is contained therein. And I the aforesaid King Don John, in order to confer labour and grace upon the said Don Alfonso Enriques, my uncle and my High Admiral of the sea, and having respect to the merit which he enjoys with me and the many, good and notable services which he rendered to King Don John my grandfather, and to King Don Henry my father and my lord, whom God pardon, and which he renders to me daily, approved it, and therefore of my own motion and certain knowledge, it is my will and pleasure to confirm and I do confirm to him the said privilege, and all the labours therein contained, and now I grant it to him anew in its entirety according and in such manner as is contained in the said privilege; and that he may have power to exercise and may exercise the said office of Admiralty, with all the authority and jurisdiction, high and low, civil and criminal, and in mero et mixto imperio, and with all the other things, and each of them, contained in the said patent of privilege incorporated above, and may avail himself thereof and of everything therein, as may also those whom he may appoint in his place, both within my court, chancery, palace and precinct and outside thereof; and he, and those whom he may appoint in his stead, shall have power to perform and may perform all the other things and each of them contained in the said patent of privilege incorporated above, which things I now give and grant with free and full judgment and power and complete authority, according as I possess it. And I firmly forbid, by this my patent of privilege or by the transcript thereof signed by a public scribener, extracted under the authority of a judge or of an alcalde, that from now henceforth any person or persons should dare to act or proceed towards him contrary to the said privilege or contrary to part thereof, so as to violate or diminish in anything what is therein contained; for any person or persons who may do so, or who may act or proceed either contrary to it or to part thereof, will incur my anger, and moreover shall pay to me the penalties contained in the said patent of privilege incorporated above, and to the said Don Alfonso Enriques, my uncle and my High Admiral, or to whomsoever may have his procuration, all the damages and losses which he may suffer thereby. And also they must pay a penalty of ten thousand maravedis to the chamber of the said Don Alfonso Enriques, my uncle and my Admiral; to which said penalty of ten thousand maravedis I desire, and it is my will and pleasure, that any person by the very fact itself shall become liable who shall contrabene or attempt to contrabene what is contained in this

Enrique mi padre e mi señor que Dios perdone e fase a mi de cada dia, tovelo por bien e porende de mi propio motuo e cierta sciencia, es mi voluntad y merçed de confirmar e confirmole el dicho privilegio, e todas las merçedes enel contenidas, e do gelo agora de nuevo en todo segund e en la manera que enel dicho privilegio se contiene, e que pueda usar e use del dicho oficio de Almirantazgo con toda la justicia e juridicion alta e baxa civil e criminal e enel mero mixto imperio, e con todas las otras cosas e cada una dellas en la dicha carta de privilegio suso encorporada contenidas, e use dello e de cada cosa dello e los que por sy pusiere asi en la my corte e chançilleria e casa e rastro, como fuera della, e pueda faser e faga elo los que por sy pusiere todas las otras cosas e cada una dellas contenidas en la dicha carta de privilegio suso encorporada, las quales yo agora do e otorgo con libre e plenaria judicio e poderio e conplida abtoridad segund que yo la he, e defiendo firme mente por esta mi carta de privilegio o por el traslado sygnado de escrivano publico sacado con abtoridad de juez o de alcalde que de aqui adelante ninguno ni algunos, non sean osados dele yr ni pasar contra el dicho privilegio ni contra parte del, para gelo quebrantar o amenguar en alguna cosa delo que enel se contiene, que a qual quier o quales quier que lo fizieren o contra el o contra parte del fuesen o pasasen avrian la mi yra e de mas pechar meyan las penas en la dicha carta de privilegio suso encorporada contenidas, e al dicho Don Alfonso Enriques mi tio e mi Almirante mayor o a quel que su bos toviese, todos los daños e menoscabos que por ende rescibiese. E eso mismo pagarle han dies mill maravedis de pena para su camera, al dicho Don Alfonso Enriques mi tio e mi Almirante, en los quales dichos dies mill maravedis de pena quiero e es mi merçed e voluntad que cayga por esso mesmo fecho qual quier que viniere o tentare venir contralo contenido en este

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my privilege or any clause or part thereof, for I confer the grant thereof upon the said Alfonso Enríques, my uncle and my High Admiral, or upon whomsoever he may select and approve. And moreover I command all the abovesaid prelates, masters of orders, commanders and subcommanders, dukes, counts, grandees and members of my council, auditors of my chamber, alcaldes, notaries, bailiffs, justices and other officers of my court and chancery and of my palace and precinct, and my prefects, chief judges, knights and esquires, and all the counsellors, governors, alcaldes, bailiffs, judges, prestameros, probosts and other justices and officers of every kind of the most noble city of Seville, and of all the cities, towns and places of my kingdoms and dominions, and the captains of the sea and my intendant of the fleet, masters and superintendents of my galleys, and the masters, mariners and merchants and any other persons who may traverse or navigate the sea, and all other persons of whatever state, condition, pre-eminence or dignity, who shall see this my patent of privilege, or the transcript thereof signed as aforesaid, to observe and perform, and cause to be observed and performed, towards the said Don Alfonso Enríques, my uncle and my High Admiral of the sea, or of whomsoever ought to receive it for him, this said privilege and all the labours therein contained, in all things fully and completely, as and in the manner therein contained, and that they are not to oppose or contravene nor agree to oppose or contravene it or part thereof, at any time or for any possible reason, under pain of my displeasure and of the penalty imposed in the said patent of privilege incorporated above, upon any person through whom it may remain undone and unfulfilled. And I command the High Chancellor of my privy seal, and members of my council, auditors of my chamber, alcaldes and notaries, and my high Treasurers and my officers and scribes who are at the board of my seals, that if with respect to all the things abovesaid, or any one or more of them, my said Admiral, or those whom he may appoint in his stead, shall demand from them any of my patents and privileges with the circle of signatures, or any others whatsoever, to give them to him and to deliver, pass and seal them as strongly, sufficiently and completely as they are able and as they may find necessary for all that is abovesaid and every clause and part thereof, and the execution thereof. And neither you nor they shall act contrary thereto, under the said penalty; and moreover if through any of you or of them it remains undone and unfulfilled, I command the person who may exhibit to you this my patent of privilege or the said transcript thereof signed as aforesaid, to cite you to appear before me in my court, the counsellors by your attorneys, and the officers and other individual persons

mi privilegio o contra cosa o parte dello, ca yo le fago merced al dicho Alfonso Enríques mi tío e mi Almirante mayor o a quien el quisiere e por bien toviere, e sobresto mando a todos los sobre dichos perlados, maestres de las ordenes e comendadores e subcomendadores, duques e condes e ricos omes e a los del mi consejo e oydores dela mi abdiencia e alcaldes e notarios e alguaziles e justicias e otros oficiales dela mi corte e chancilleria e dela mi casa e rastro, e a los mis adelantados e merinos mayores cavalleros e escuderos, e a todos los conçejos e corregidores e alcaldes e alguasiles e merinos e prestameros e prebostes e otras justicias e oficiales quales quier dela muy noble çibdad de Sevilla e de todas las çibdades e villas e logares de los mis reynos e señorios, e a los capitanes dela mar, e al miarmador dela flota e patrones e comitres delas mis galeas e a los maestres e marineros e marcantes, e otras personas quales quier que anduvieren e navegaren por la mar, e a todas las otras personas de qual quier estado e

condición prebeminencia o dinidad que sean que esta mi carta de privilegio vieren o el traslado della sygnado como dicho es, que guarden e cumplan e fagan guardar e conplir al dicho don Alfonso Enríques mi tío, e mi Almirante mayor dela mar o al que lo oviere de aver por el, este dicho privilegio e todas las mercedes enel contenidas, en todo bien e cunplida mente segund e enla manera que enel se contiene, e que le no vayan ni pascen ni consientan yr ni pasar contra el ni contra parte del en alguno tienpo ni por alguna rason que sea, so pena dela mi merced e dela pena contenida enla dicha carta de privilegio suso encorporada, a cada uno por quien fincare delo asy faser e conplir, e mando al mi chanciller mayor del mi sello dela poridad e a los del mi consejo e oydores dela mi abdiencia e alcaldes e notarios, e a los mis contadores mayores e a los mis oficiales e escrivanos que estan ala tabla delos mis sellos, que si sobre todas las cosas suso dichas o sobre qual quier o quales quier dellas, el dicho mi Almirante o los que el por sy pusiere, les pidieren quales quier mis cartas e privilegios rodados o otros quales quier, que gelos den e libren e pasen e sellen los mas firmes e bastantes e complidos que pudieren e menester ovieren para todo lo suso dicho e para cada cosa e parte dello e para la exsecucion dello. E non fagades ni fagan ende al, sola dicha pena, e demas por qual quier o quales quier de vos o dellos por quien fincare delo asi faser e conplir, mando al ome, que vos esta mi carta de privilegio mostrare o el dicho su traslado signado como dicho es, que vos enplase que parescades ante mi enla mi corte, los conçejos por vuestros procuradores, e los oficiales e las otras personas singlarcs

personal mente del dia que vos emplazaren fasta quinze dias primeros syguientes, cada uno a desyr por qual rason non conplides mi mandado, sola dicha pena, e a qual quier escrivano publico que para esto fuere llamado que de ende al que vos la mostrare testimonio sygnado con su sygno, por que yo sepa en como se cunple mi mandado. E desto le mando dar al dicho mi Almirante mi tio, esta mi carta de privilegio escripta en pergamino de cuero firmado de mi nonbre rodado e sellado con mi sello de plomo pendiente en filos de seda. Dada en la cibdad de Segovia a seys de junio año del nascimiento de nuestro Salvador Jesu Christo de mill e quatroçientos e dies e nueve años. Yo El Rey. Yo El sobre-dicho Rey don Juan reynante en uno con la Reyna doña Maria mi esposa e con la ynfante doña Catalina mi hermana, en Castilla e en Leon e en Galizia e en Toledo e en Sevilla e en Cordova e en Murcia e en Jaben e en Baesa e en Badajos, e en el Algarbe e en Algezira e en Viscaya e en Molina,

otorgo este privilegio e confirmolo. El ynfante don Juan primo del dicho Señor Rey, ynfante de Aragon maestre de Santiago confirma. El ynfante don Pedro primo del dicho Señor Rey confirma. Don Alfonso Enrriques tio del Rey Almirante mayor dela mar confirma. Don Ruy Lopes Davalos Conde estable de Castilla, Ade'antado mayor de Murcia confirma. Don Luys de Gusman maestre dela orden dela cavalleria de Calatrava confirma. Don Luys dela Cerda Conde de Medina Çeli vasallo del Rey confirma. Don Juan Alfonso Pimentel conde de Benavente vasallo del Rey confirma. Don Pedro Señor de Montalegre vasallo del Rey, confirma. Don Lope de Mendoza Arçobispo de Santiago capellan mayor confirma. Don Rodrigo de Velasco, obispo de Palencia confirma. Don Alfonso obispo de Ciguença confirma. Don Juan obispo de Segovia confirma. Don Juan Obispo de Avila confirma. Don Alvaro obispo de Cuenca confirma. Don Fernando obispo de Cordova confirma. Don Gutierre Gomes administrador dela iglesia de Palencia chançiller mayor dela Reyna de Castilla, confirma. Don Rodrigo obispo de Jaben confirma. E yo Johan Fernandes de Guadalajara, la fis escrivir por su mandado del Rey nuestro Señor. Fernandus bachalaureus in legibus. Registrada. La qual dicha carta de privilegio del dicho Señor Rey presentada e leyda enla manera que dicha es, el dicho Gonçalo Fernandes en nombre del dicho Señor Almirante

personally within the first fifteen days following the day of citation, each one to declare the reason why you did not fulfil my command, under the said penalty; and I command every public scribe who may be summoned for this purpose to give thereupon to the person who may exhibit this patent, a certificate signed with his seal, whereby I may know how my command is fulfilled. And hereof I order to be given to my said Admiral, my uncle, this my patent of privilege, written on parchment of skin, signed with my name with the circle of signatures, and sealed with my seal of lead suspended by threads of silk. Given in the city of Segovia on the sixth of June in the year of the nativity of our Saviour Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and nineteen. I the King. **I** **T** **H** **E** above-said King Don John reigning, jointly with the Queen Donna Mary my wife and with the Infanta Catherine, my sister, in Castile, Leon, Galicia, Toledo, Seville, Cordoba, Murcia, Jaen, Baeza, Badajos, Algarbe, Algeciras, Biscay and Molina, grant this privilege and confirm it. The Infante Don John, cousin of the said Lord the King, Infante of Aragon, Master of Santiago, confirms it. The Infante Don Pedro, cousin of the said Lord the King, confirms it. Don Alfonso Enriques, uncle of the King, High Admiral of the sea, confirms it. Don Ruy Lopes de Avalos, Constable of Castile, Chief Prefect of Murcia, confirms it. Don Louis de Gusman, Master of the Order of the Knights of Calatrava, confirms it. Don Louis de la Cerda, Count of Medinaceli, Vassal of the King, confirms it. Don John Alfonso Pimentel, Count de Benavente, Vassal of the King, confirms it. Don Peter, Lord of Monte Alegre, Vassal of the King, confirms it. Don Lope de Mendoza, Archbishop of Santiago, High Chaplain, confirms it. Don Roderick de Velasco, Bishop of Palencia, confirms it. Don Alfonso, Bishop of Sigüenza, confirms it. Don John, Bishop of Segovia, confirms it. Don John, Bishop of Avila, confirms it. Don Alvaro, Bishop of Cuenca, confirms it. Don Ferdinand, Bishop of Cordoba, confirms it. Don Gutierre Gomes, Administrator of the Church of Palencia, High Chancellor of the Queen of Castile, confirms it. Don Roderick, Bishop of Jaen, confirms it. And I John Fernandes de Guadalajara caused it to be written by command of our Lord the King. Ferdinand, Bachelor of Laws. Registered. Which said patent of privilege of the said Lord the King, being presented and read in the form aforesaid, the said Gonçalo Fernandes, in the name of the said Lord Admiral

[illegible]

declared to the Lords Auditors aforesaid, that inasmuch as the said Admiral intended and found it necessary to send the said patent of privilege and present it in certain places in execution of the service of our said Lord the King and of the common wealth of his kingdoms and dominions and of the subjects and natives thereof, and for the care and conservation of the said Admiralty and of the said Admiral, and that it was feared that the said patent of privilege might be lost and damaged, as well by theft, as by fire or by water or by other cause or accident or by any danger that might befall, and that hence might follow disservice to the said Lord the King and damage might accrue to the said Admiral, therefore he said that he asked and he did ask the said Auditors, in the best manner and form that he could and ought of right, that in virtue of their office, which he solicited, they would order and give licence to us the said John Martines and Peter Garcia, Scribes, so that we both jointly as public persons might transcribe or cause to be transcribed from the said original patent of privilege of our said Lord the King one copy or two, or as many more as might suffice and be needful for the said Admiral Don Fadrique, and that we should deliver them signed by each of us jointly in such wise that they might obtain credence, being collated with the said original patent of privilege; and that such copy or copies of the said patent of privilege of the said Lord the King as we should thus deliver to the said Admiral, or to whomsoever should receive it on his behalf, should be signed with our signatures. And in order that they might be more stable and valid, he asked the said Lords Auditors to give and to interpose, in that and for that, their decree and authority, so that such copy or copies of it as we the said Scribes should so deliver signed as aforesaid might avail and obtain credence, wheresoever they might appear, within and without a court of justice, in such manner as the said original patent of privilege above contained would avail and obtain credence upon being put in evidence. And thereupon the said Lords Auditors, having seen the said petition, took the said original patent of privilege in their hands and inspected, considered and examined it, and inasmuch as on the present occasion they did not find it either torn, or broken or cancelled or interpolated or in any part thereof doubtful or suspicious, but rather free from every defect; therefore, considering all that is aforesaid they declared that they ordained and did ordain and give licence to us the said John Martines of Leon and Peter Garcia of Madrigal, scribes aforesaid, that we both jointly as public persons should make or cause to be made from the said original patent of privilege of our said Lord the King, one

dixo alos dichos Señores oydores, que por quanto el dicho Señor Almirante entendia e le era necesario de embiar la dicha carta de privilegio, e la presentar, en algunos lugares do conplia a servicio del dicho Señor Rey e del bien comun de los sus reynos e señorios e de los subditos e naturales dellos e guarda e conservacion del dicho Almirantazgo e del dicho Almirante, e que se rezelava que la dicha carta de privilegio se podria perder e dañar, asy por robo como por fuego e por agua o por otra causa o caso furtivo o peligro alguno que podria acaescer e dello se podria seguir deservicio al dicho Señor Rey e al dicho Señor Almirante recrecer en ello daño, por ende dixo que pedia e pidio alos dichos Señores oydores en la mejor manera e forma que podia e devia de derecho, que de su oficio el qual ymplorava mandasen e diesen licencia, a nos los dichos Juan Martines e Pero Garcia escrivanos para que ambos a dos junta mente como personas publicas, sacasemos o fiziesemos sacar de-

la dicha carta de privilegio del dicho Señor Rey original un traslado o dos o mas quantos cupliesen e fuesen menester al dicho Señor Almirante don Fadrique, e gelos diesemos signados de cada uno de nos junta mente en manera que fiziesen fe, concertados con la dicha carta de privilegio original, e que al tal traslado o traslados que asy diesemos sygnados de nuestros sygnos dela dicha carta de privilegio del dicho Señor Rey, al dicho Señor Almirante, o al que lo oviese de aver por el. E porque fuesen mas firmes e valederos, pidio alos dichos Señores oydores que diesen e ynterpusiesen aello e para ello su decreto e abtoridad para que delos tales traslado o traslados que nos los dichos escrivanos asi diesemos dello sygnados como dicho es, valiesen e fiziesen fe do quierque paresciesen en juyso e fuera del asi como valdria e faria fee la dicha carta de privilegio original suso contenida paresciendo. E luego los dichos Señores oydores vislo el dicho pedimiento tomaron la dicha carta de privilegio original en sus manos e vieron e cataronla e exsaminaronla, e por quanto al presente no la fallaron rota ni casa ni chançellada ni sopuntada ni en alguna parte della dubdosa ni sospechosa, mas antes caresciente de todo vicio, por ende acatando lo sobredicho todo, dixeron que mandavan e mandaron e dieron licencia, a nos los dichos Juan Martines de Leon e Pero Garcia de Madrigal escrivanos sobredichos, para que amos a dos junta mente como personas publicas, sacasemos o fiziesemos sacar dela dicha carta de privilegio del dicho Señor Rey, original, un

treslado o dos o mas quantos cumpliesen e fuesen menester, al dicho Señor Almirante, e gelos diessemos signados con nuestros sygnos concertados con la dicha carta de privilegio original en manera que fiziesen fe, e el treslado o treslados que nosotros asy diessemos dello al dicho Señor Almirante como dicho es, los dichos señores oydores, dixeron que ynterponian e ynterpusyeron su abtoridad e decreto, sy e en quanto e en la mejor manera e forma que podian e devian de derrecho, para que los tales treslado o treslados que asi diessemos dello sygnados, valiesen e fiziesen fee do quier que paresciessen en juyzio e fuera del, sy e asy e a tan conplida mente, como valdria e faria fe la dicha carta de privilegio original del dicho Señor Rey paresciendo. Testigos que fueron presentes a todo lo que dicho es, el licenciado Juan Lopes de Miranda, e los bachilleres Diego Muños, alcaldes delos fijos dalgo, e Luys Rodrigues e Fernand Matheos, e Alonso Lopes de Sevilla, e Luys Gonçales de Cordova escrivanos del dicho Señor Rey. E desto encomo paso el dicho Gonçalo Fernandes, en nonbre del

dicho Señor Almirante pidio anos los dichos escrivanos que le diesemos este treslado dela dicha carta de privilegio original del dicho Señor Rey con la dicha abtoridad e decreto para guarda e conservacion del dicho Almirante, e delas cabsas sobre dichas que fue fecho e paso, dia e mes e año, ante los testigos sobre dichos desuso escriptos. E nos los dichos Juan Martines de Leon e Pero García de Madrigal escrivanos sobre dichos, por virtud dela dicha licencia e mandamiento a nos fecho, e dado por los dichos Señores oydores dela dicha abtoridad e decreto por ellos asy ynterpuesta, fizimos escrivir e sacar e sacamos este treslado dela dicha carta de privilegio original del dicho Señor Rey, amos a doss junta mente, e lo concertamos con la dicha carta de privilegio original de verbo ad verbo, en presençia delos testigos que yuso seran escriptos que fueron presentes al dicho concertamiento, e vieron e oyeron leer e concertar, este dicho treslado con la dicha carta de privilegio original, los quales dichos testigos que fueron presentes e llamados al dicho concertamiento son estos que se syguen. Francisco Martines de Villanpando escrivano dela dicha abdiencia, e Andres de Valladolid e Fernando de Medina, fijo de Juan de Medina, criado del dicho Juan Martines de Leon. Va escripto sobre raydo, en un lugar donde dise, porende grand galardón, e o dis e, e escripto entre renglones e o dis mi, e escripto entre renglones e o dis qual quier navio, e o dis en la dicha mar, e entre renglones o dis dicha, e sobre raydo o dis publico que para e entre renglones de, e o dis de orgaz, e escripto sobre raydo o dis tenorio notario, e entre renglones escripto o dis mi, e o dis Juan Lopes, non le empezca. E yo el dicho Juan Martines de Leon escrivano e notario publico sobredicho, que a esto que sobredicho es presente fuy, con el dicho Pero García de Madrigal escrivano, ante los dichos Señores oydores en uno con los dichos testigos que aello fueron presentes, e por el dicho mandamiento e licencia delos dichos Señores oydores en uno con el dicho Pero García escrivano fis escrivir e sacar este treslado dela dicha carta de privilegio del

transcript, or two, or as many more as might suffice and be necessary for the said Lord Admiral, and should deliver them to him signed with our signatures, and collated with the said original patent of privilege, in such manner as to obtain credence; and with respect to the transcript or transcripts thereof which we should thus deliver to the said Lord Admiral, as aforesaid, the said Lords Auditors declared that they interposed and they did interpose their authority and decree, thus and so far and in the best manner and form which they could and ought of right, in order that such transcript or transcripts thereof as we should deliver duly signed, should avail and obtain credence whereever they might appear, whether within or without a court of justice, as and in the same manner and as completely as the said original patent of privilege of the said Lord the King would avail and obtain credence upon being presented. Witnesses who were present at all that is aforesaid, the licentiate John Lopes de Miranda and the bachelors Diego and Muños alcaldes of the gentry, and Louis Rodrigues and Ferdinand Matheos and Alonso Lopes of Seville, and Louis Gonzales of Cordoba, scribes of our said Lord the King. And directly this took place the said Gonzalo Fernandes, in the name of the said Lord Admiral, requested us the said Scribes to deliver to him this transcript of the said original patent of privilege of our said Lord the King, with the said authorization and decree for the security and conservation of the said Admiral and of the matters aforesaid; which was done and passed on the day, month and year above written, before the aforesaid witnesses. And we, the said John Martines of Leon and Peter Garcia of Madrigal, scribes aforesaid, in virtue of the said licence and order made and delibered to us by the said Lords Auditors upon the said authorization and decree thus by them interposed, have caused to be written and drawn out and do draw out this transcript of the said original patent of privilege of our said Lord the King, both together jointly, and we do collate it with the said original patent of privilege, word for word, in the presence of the witnesses who will be written below who were present at the said collation, and saw and heard this said transcript read and collated with the said original patent of privilege; which said witnesses, who were present and were summoned to the said collation, are the following: Francisco Martines of Villa Anpando, scribe of the said chamber, and Andrew of Valladolid and Ferdinand of Medina, son of John of Medina, servant of the said John Martines of Leon. It is written over erasure in a place where it says porende grand galardón, and where it says e it is written between lines, and where it says mi it is written between lines, and where it says qualquier navio, and where it says en la dicha mar, and between lines where it says dicha, and over erasure where it says publico que para and between lines de, and where it says orgaz, it is written over erasure where it says tenorio notario, it is written between lines where it says mi, and where it says Juan Lopes; let this be no prejudice thereto. And I, the said John Martines of Leon, scribe and notary public aforesaid, who was present at that which is aforesaid, with the said Peter Garcia of Madrigal, scribe, before the said Lords Auditors, together with the said witnesses who were present thereat, and by the said order and licence of the said Lords Auditors, together with the said Peter Garcia, scribe, caused to be written and drawn out this transcript of the said patent of privilege of the

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said Lord the King, with the said authorization, on these three leaves and a half of parchment of skin, besides this whereon is my signature, and below each page is placed my name; and I have collated this transcript with the said original patent of privilege of the said Lord the King, together with the said Peter Garcia, scrivener, in the presence of the witnesses mentioned in this writing, who were present at the said collation; and therefore I have made here this my signature, for such it is, in testimony of the truth: John Martines. And I, the said Peter Garcia of Madrigal, scrivener and notary public aforesaid, having been present at that which is aforesaid, together with the said John Martines of Leon, scrivener, before the said Lords Auditors, together with the said witnesses who were present thereat, and by the said command and licence of the said Lords Auditors, together with the said John Martines, scrivener, caused to be written and extracted this transcript of the said patent of privilege of the said Lord the King, with the said authorization, on these three leaves and a half of parchment of skin, with this piece in addition on which is placed this my signature, and below each page is placed my name; and I have collated this transcript with the said original patent of privilege of the said Lord the King, together with the said John Martines, scrivener, in the presence of the witnesses mentioned in this writing, and who were present at the said collation; and therefore I have made here this my signature in testimony of the truth: Peter Garcia. And this transcript was collated with the said original writing from which it was extracted before the witnesses who were present thereat, on Friday, the thirteenth day of the month of November, in the year of the nativity of our Saviour Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and eighty-nine. Witnesses who were present at the reading and collation of this said transcript extracted from the said writing: Alfonso de Valle and Diego de Mesa, alcaldes, and Nuño de Mendoza and Ferdinand de Esquivel and John de Montanos, scrivener of our Lord the King, and others. And I, Gonzalo Garcia of Villa Mayor, scrivener of our Lord the King and his notary public in his court and in all his realms and dominions, was present, together with the said witnesses, at the collation of this said transcript with the said writing, from which it was extracted, which transcript I have caused to be written, and therefore I have made here this my signature, in testimony thereof: Gonzalo Garcia, scrivener of the King.

In the name of the Holy Trinity and eternal

Unity, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, three persons really distinct in one divine essence which lives and reigns for ever without end, and of the blessed and glorious Virgin Saint Mary, our Lady, His Mother, whom we regard as Lady and advocate in all our actions, and

dicho Señor Rey con la dicha abtoridad, en estas tres fojas e media de pergamino de cuero, con esta en que va mi sygno, e debaxo de cada plana, va puesto mi nonbre e concertado este traslado con la dicha carta de privilegio original del dicho Señor Rey, en uno con el dicho Pero Garcia escrivano en presencia delos testigos que enesta escriptura faze mençion que fueron presentes al dicho concertamiento. E porende fis aqui este mio signo que es tal en testimonio de verdad, Juan Martines. E yo el dicho Pero Garcia de Madrigal escrivano e notario publico suso dicho que a esto que sobre dicho es presente fuy con el dicho Juan Martines de Leon escrivano ante los dichos Señores Oydores, en uno con los dichos testigos que aello fueron presentes, e por el dicho mandamiento e licencia delos dichos Señores Oydores en uno con el dicho Juan Martines escrivano fis escrivir e sacar este traslado dela dicha carta de privilegio del dicho Señor Rey con la dicha abtoridad en estas tres fojas e media de per-

gamino de cuero con mas este pedaço en que va este mio sygno e debaxo de cada plana, va puesto mi nombre e concertado este traslado con la dicha carta de privilegio original del dicho Señor Rey en uno con el dicho Juan Martines escrivano, en presencia delos testigos que enesta escriptura fase minçion que fueron presentes al dicho concertamiento, e porende fis aqui este mio sygno en testimonio de verdad, Pero Garcia. E este traslado fue concertado con la dicha escriptura original donde fue sacado ante los testigos que aello fueron presentes en viernes trese dias del mes de noviembre, año del nascimiento de nuestro Salvador Jesu Christo de mill e quatroçientos e ochenta e nueve años, testigos que fueron presentes al leer e concertar deste dicho traslado sacado dela dicha escriptura, Alfonso de Valle e Diego de Mesa alcaldes, e Nuño de Mendoza e Fernando desquivel e Juan de Montanos escrivano del Rey nuestro Señor, e otros. E yo Gonçalo Garcia de Villamayor escrivano de nuestro Señor el Rey e su notario publico en la su corte, e en todos los sus reynos e señorios presente fuy, en uno con los dichos testigos, a concertar este dicho traslado con la dicha escriptura donde fue sacado, el qual fis escrivir e porende fis aqui este mio sygno, atal en testimonio, Gonçalo Garcia escrivano del Rey.

Enel nombre dela Sancta Trinidad yterna Unidad Padre e Fijo Spiritu Sancto, tres personas real mente distintas en una esençia divina, que bive e reyna por siempre sin fin, e dela bien aventurada Virgen gloriosa Sancta Maria nuestra Señora su Madre, aquien nos tenemos por Señora e por abogada en todos los nuestros fechos e

e honrra e reverençia suya, e del bienaventurado Apostol Señor Sanctiago, luz e espejo delas Españas patron e guiador de los Reyes de Castilla e de Leon, y asy mesmo a onor y reverençia de todos los otros santos e santas dela corte celestial. Porque aunque segund natura non puede el ome conplida mente conoçer que cosa es Dios por el mayor conosciendo que del mundo puede aver, puedelo conoçer viendo e contemplan-do sus maravillosas obras e fechos que fizo e faze de cada dia, pues que todas las obras por su poder son fechas e por su saber gobernadas e por su bondad mantenidas, y asy el ome puede entender que Dios es comienço e medio e fin de todas las cosas, e que enel se ençierran, y el mantiene a cada uno en aquel estado que las ordeno, y todas le han menester, y el no ha menester aellas, y el las puede mudar cada que quisiere segund su voluntad, y non puede caber enel que se mude nin se cambie, en alguna manera e el es dicho Rey sobre todos los Reyes, por que del

han ellos nonbre, y por el reynan, y el los gobierna y mantiene, los quales son vicarios cada uno en su reyno puestos por el sobre las gentes para los mantener en justiçia y en virtud temporal mente, lo qual se muestra conplida mente en dossal maneras, la una dellas spiritual, segund lo mostraron los prophetas e los santos aqui en nuestro Señor graçia de saber todas las cosas çierta mente e las faser entender, la otra manera es segund natura asi como lo mostraron los omes sabios que fueron conosciadores delas cosas natural mente. Ca los Santos dixeron que el Rey es puesto en la tierra enel lugar de Dios para conplir la justiçia, e dar a cada uno su derecho, y porende lo llamaron coraçon y alma del pueblo, y asi como el alma esta enel coraçon del ome e por el bive el cuerpo y se mantiene, asi enel Rey esta la justiçia que es vida e mantenimiento del pueblo de su señorio, y asy como el coraçon es uno y por el reciben todos los otros miembros unidad para ser un cuerpo, bien asi todos los del Reyno maguer sean muchos son uno, por que el Rey deve ser y es uno, y por esto deven ser todos uno conel para lo seguir y ayudar en las cosas que ha de baser, y natural mente dixeron los sabios que los Reyes son cabeça del reyno por que como dela cabeça naçen los sentidos por que se mandan todos los miembros del cuerpo, bien asy por el mandamiento que naçe del Rey que es señor y cabeça de todos los del Reyno, se deve mandar y guiar y lo obedesçer, y tan grand es derecho del poder de los Reyes que todas las leyes e los derechos tienenlo so su poderio, por que aquel non le han delos omes, mas de Dios cuyo lugar tienen en las cosas temporales al qual entre las otras cosas principal mente perteneçe amar e honrrar e guardar sus pueblos, y entre los otros señalada mente deve tomar y honrrar alos que lo merescen, por serviçios

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 d e m l e q u a t r o c e n t o s e n d e n a t e p e t r a m o s

En el nombre de la

[illegible]

they have rendered to him; and therefore the King or Prince, among his other powers, not only can but ought to bestow labours upon those who are deserving thereof for the services they have rendered to him and for the goodness he may find in them; and because among the other virtues appertaining to Kings, according to the saying of the philosophers, justice is one, and is the virtue and truth of things, and by it the world is best and most righteously maintained, and it is, as it were, a fountain from which all rights flow, and it always exists in the dispositions of just men, never failing, and giving and distributing to each his due; and it comprehends in itself all the principal virtues, and very great utility arises therefrom, for it causes every one to live prudently and peaceably according to his condition, without fault and without error; and thereby the good become better, receiving rewards for the good deeds they have done, and the others are reformed and amended. And this justice consists of two principal parts, the one commutative, which is between one man and another, and the other distributive, in which are obtained the rewards and remunerations of the good and virtuous labours and services, which men do for Kings and Princes and for the public welfare of their kingdoms, because as the laws declare, to give reward to those who serve well and faithfully is a thing which is very becoming to all men, but especially to Kings, Princes and great Lords, who have the power to do it, and it is their peculiar privilege to honour and exalt those who serve them well and faithfully, and whose virtues and services deserve it. In rewarding good deeds, the Kings who do so show that they are discerners of virtue and likewise administrators of justice, for justice does not consist only in the exemplary punishment of evildoers but also in rewarding the good. And moreover another very great utility arises therefrom, for it incites the good to become more virtuous and the wicked to amend themselves, and when this course is not pursued the contrary might happen. And since among the other rewards and remunerations which Kings can bestow upon those who serve them well and faithfully they can honour and elevate them among the others of their family, and ennoble, decorate and honour them, and confer many other benefits, graces and labours upon them: Therefore, considering and taking into account all that is abovesaid, we desire that by this our patent of privilege, or by the transcript thereof signed by a public scrivener, all who now are, and who shall be from henceforth, may know that We, Don Ferdinand and Donna Isabella, by the grace of God King and Queen of Castile, Leon, Aragon, Sicily, Granada, Toledo, Valencia, Galicia, Majorca, Seville, Sardinia, Cordova, Corsica, Murcia, Jaen, the Algarbes, Algeciras, Gibraltar, and the Canary Islands, Count and Countess of Barcelona, Lords of Biscay and Molina, Dukes of Athens and Neopatria, Counts of Roussillon and

queles[le] ayan fecho. Y por ende el Rey o el Principe, entre los otros poderes que ha no tan sola mente puede mas deve fazer gracias alos que las merescen, por servicios quele ayan fecho, y por bondad que falle enellos, y por que entre las otras virtudes anexas alos Reyes segund dixeron los Sabios es la justicia, la qual es virtud e verdad delas cosas, por la qual mejor e mas endereçada mente se mantiene el mundo y es asi como fuente donde manan todos los derechos e dura por syempre en las voluntades delos omes justos, e nunca desfallece e da e reparte a cada uno yqual mente su derecho, e comprehende en si todas las virtudes principales y nace dellas muy grand butilidad por que haze bivar cuerda mente y en paz a cada uno segund su estado syn culpa e syn yerro, e los buenos se basen por ella mejores recibiendo galardones por los bienes que fizieron e los otros por ella se endereçan e emiendan, la qual justicia tiene en si doss partes principales, la una es commutativa, que es entre un ome e otro, e la otra es distributiva, en la qual consisten los galardones e remuneraciones delos

buenos e virtuosos trabajos e servicios que los omes fazen alos Reyes e Principes e ala cosa publica de sus reynos por que segund dicen las leyes dar galardon alos que bien e leal mente syrven es cosa que conviene mucho a todos los omes mayor mente alos Reyes e Principes e grandes Señores que tienen poder delo bazer, e aellos es cosa propia honrrar e sublimar aquellos que bien e leal mente les syrven e sus virtudes e servicios lo mereçen. En galardonar los buenos fechos los Reyes que lo bazen muestran ser conoscdores dela virtud e otrosy justicieros, ca la justicia no es tan sola mente en escarmentar los malos mas aun es galardonar los buenos, e demas desto nasce della otra muy grand utilidad por que da voluntad alos buenos para ser mas virtuosos, e alos malos para emendarse, e quando asy non se haze podrya acaecer el contrario, e porque entre los otros galardones e remuneraciones que los Reyes puden bazer alos que bien e leal mente les syrven, es honrrarlos e sublimarlos entre los otros de su linaje e los ennoblecer e decorar e honrrar e les bazer otros muchos bienes e gracias e merçedes, porende considerando e acatando todo lo suso dicho, queremos que sepan por esta nuestra carta de previllejo o por su traslado signado de escrivano publico todos los que agora son e seran de aqui adelante como Nos Don Fernando e Doña Ysabel por la gracia de Dios Rey e Reyna de Castilla, de Leon, de Aragon, de Sicilia, de Granada, de Toledo, de Valencia, de Gallisia, de Mallorcas, de Sevilla, de Cerdeña, de Cordova, de Corcega, de Murcia, de Jabon, delos Algarbes, de Algesira, de Gibraltar, e delas yslas de Canaria, Conde e Condesa de Barcelona, Señores de Viscaya e de Molina, Duques de Atenas e de Neopatria, Condes de Rusellon, e de

Cerdania, Marqueses de Orystan e de Goçiano, vimos unos capitulos firmados de nuestros nonbres e sellados con nuestro sello fechos en esta guisa,

§ Las cosas suplicasdas e que Vuestras Altezas dan e otorgan a Don Christoval Colon en alguna satisfacion dello que ha descubierto en las mares oceanas e del vyaje que agora con la ayuda de Dios ha de hazer por ellas en servicio de Vuestras Altezas son las que se siguen.

Primera mente que Vuestras Altezas como Señores que son delas dichas mares oceanas fazen dende agora al dicho Don Christoval Colon su Almirante en todas aquellas yslas e tierras firmes que por su mano e yndustria se descubriran o ganaran en las dichas mares oceanas para durante su vida e despues del muerto a sus herederos e subçesores de uno en otro perpetua mente con todas aquellas prebeminencias e prerrogativas pertenecientes al tal oficio e segund que Don Alonso Enriquez vuestro Almirante mayor de Castilla e los

otros predecesores en el dicho oficio lo tenian en sus distritos. Plaze a Sus Altezas. Iohan de Coloma.

Otrosy, que Vuestras Altezas fazen al dicho Don Christoval su Viso Rey e Governador general en todas las dichas yslas e tierras firmes e yslas que como dicho es el descubriere e ganare, en las dichas mares, e que para el regimiento de cada una e qual quier dellas faga elecion de tres personas para cada oficio, e que Vuestras Altezas tomen e escogan uno el que mas fuere su servicio, e asy seran mejor regidas las tierras que nuestro Señor le dexara ballar e ganar a servicio de Vuestras Altezas. Plaze a Sus Altezas. Juan de Coloma.

§ Yten que todas e quales quier mercaderyas sy quier sean, perlas, piedras preciosas, oro, plata, espiçerya, e otras quales quier cosas y mercaduryas de qual quier especie, nonbre e manera que sea, que se compren, trocaren, ballaren, ganaren, e ovieren dentro delos limites del dicho Almirantazgo, que dende agora Vuestras Altezas hazen merced al dicho Don Christoval e quieren que aya e lieve para sy la dezena parte de todo ello quitadas las costas todas que se hizieren en ello, por manera que dello que quedare limpio e libre aya e tome la decima parte para sy mismo, e faga della a su voluntad quedando las otras nueve partes para Vuestras Altezas. Plaze a Sus Altezas. Juan de Coloma.

Otrosy que sya cabsa delas mercadurias que el trabera delas dichas yslas e tierras que asy como dicho es se ganaren o descubrieren o delas que entroque de aquellas se tomaren, aca de otros mercaderes nasciere plito alguno

Cerdagne, Marqueses of Orystano and Goçiano, have seen certain articles signed with our names and sealed with our seal, and made in this form:

The things prayed for, and which Your Highnesses give and grant to Don Christopher Columbus as some recompense for what he has discovered in the oceans, and for the voyage which now, with the help of God, he has engaged to make therein in the service of Your Highnesses, are the following:

Firstly, that Your Highnesses, as actual Lords of the said oceans, appoint from this date the said Don Christopher Columbus to be your Admiral in all those islands and mainlands which by his activity and industry shall be discovered or acquired in the said oceans during his lifetime, and likewise, after his death, his heirs and successors one after another in perpetuity, with all the pre-eminences and prerogatives appertaining to the said office, and in the same manner as Don Alfonso Enriquez, your High Admiral of Castile, and his predecessors in the said office held it in their districts. It so pleases their Highnesses. John de Coloma.

In like manner, that Your Highnesses appoint the said Don Christopher to be your Viceroy and Governor General in all the said islands and mainlands and in the islands which, as aforesaid, he may discover and acquire in the said seas; and that for the government of each and any of them he may make choice of three persons for each office, and that Your Highnesses may select and choose the one who shall be most serviceable to you; and thus the lands which our Lord shall permit him to discover and acquire for the service of Your Highnesses, will be the better governed. It so pleases their Highnesses. John de Coloma.

Item, that all and every kind of merchandise, whether pearls, precious stones, gold, silver, spices and other objects and merchandise whatsoever, of whatever kind, name and sort, which may be bought, bartered, discovered, acquired and obtained within the limits of the said Admiralty, Your Highnesses grant from now henceforth to the said Don Christopher, and will that he may have and take for himself the tenth part of the whole of it, after deducting all the expenses which may be incurred therein, so that of what shall remain clear and free he may have and take the tenth part for himself, and may do therewith as he pleases, the other nine parts being reserved for Your Highnesses. It so pleases their Highnesses. John de Coloma.

Likewise, that if on account of the merchandise which he shall bring from the said islands and lands which thus, as aforesaid, may be acquired or discovered, or of that which may be taken in exchange for the same from other merchants here, any suit should arise

in the place where the said commerce and traffic shall be held and conducted; and if by the pre-eminence of his office of Admiral it appertains to him to take cognizance of such suit, it may please Your Highnesses that he or his deputy, and not another judge, shall take cognizance thereof and give judgment in the same from henceforth. It so pleases their Highnesses if it appertains to the said office of Admiral, according as it was held by Admiral Don Alfonso Enriquez and others his predecessors in their districts, and if it be just. John de Coloma.

Item, that in all the vessels which may be equipped for the said traffic and business, each time and whenever and as often as they may be equipped, the said Don Christopher Columbus may, if he chooses, contribute and pay the eighth part of all that may be spent in the equipment, and that likewise he may have and take the eighth part of the profits that may result from such equipment. It so pleases their Highnesses. John de Coloma.

They are granted and despatched with the replies of Your Highnesses at the end of each article. In the town of Santa Fe de la Vega of Granada, on the seventeenth day of April in the year of the nativity of our Saviour Jesus Christ, one thousand four hundred and ninety-two. The King. The Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen. John de Coloma. Registered, Calçena.

And now whereas you, the said Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean and our Viceroy and Governor of the mainland and islands, have supplicated and prayed us as a labour that in order that the said patent of privilege might be the better and more completely observed to you and to your sons and descendants, we would confirm and approve it to you and would command our patent of privilege thereof to be given to you, or whatever might be our pleasure; and we taking into consideration what is aforesaid, and the many, good, faithful, great and continual services which you the said Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral and Viceroy and Governor of the isles and mainland, discovered and to be discovered in the Ocean, in the region of the Indies, have rendered and we hope will render to us, especially in discovering and bringing into our power and under our dominion the said islands and mainland, chiefly because we hope that by the aid of God our Lord it will redound much to his service and to our honour, and to the profit and advantage of our kingdoms and dominions, for we hope that, with the help of God, the Indian inhabitants of the said Indies will be converted to our holy catholic faith; We have ordained, and by this our said patent of privilege, or by the transcript thereof signed as aforesaid, of our own motion and certain knowledge and absolute royal power, which in this matter we will to use and do use, we confirm and approve, for the present time and for ever, to you, the said Don Christopher Columbus, and to your said sons and grandsons, and to your descendants and theirs, and to your heirs,

enel lugar donde el dicho comercio e trato se terna e fara que sy por la prebeminencia de su oficio de Almirante le pertenezca conocer del tal pleyto plega a Vuestras Altezas que el o su teniente e non otro Juzc conosca del tal plito, e asy lo provean dende agora. Plaze a Sus Altezas sy pertenece al dicho oficio de Almirante segunt que lo tenia el Almirante Don Alfonso Enriquez, y los otros sus antecesores en sus distritos e seyendo justo. Juan de Coloma.

§ Yten que en todos los navios que se armaren para el dicho trato e negociacion cada e quando e quantas vezes se armaren que pueda el dicho Don Christoval Colon sy quisyere contribuir e pagar la ocheva parte de todo lo que se gastare enel armazon, e que tambien aya e lieve del provecho la ocheva parte de lo que resultare dela tal armada. Plaze a Sus Altezas. Iohan de Coloma.

§ Son otorgados e despachados con las respuestas de Vuestras Altezas en fyn de cada un capitulo en la villa de Santa Fe dela Vega de Granada a diez e syete dias de Abril del año del

nasçimiento de nuestro Salvador Jesu Christo de mille quatroçientos e noventa e doss años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Iohan de Coloma. Registrada Calçena.

E agora por quanto vos el dicho Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano e nuestro Viso Rey e Governador dela tierra firme e yslas, nos suplicastes e pedistes por merced que porque mejor e mas cunplida mente vos fuese guardada la dicha carta de merced a vos e a vuestros hijos e dependientes que vos la confirmasemos e aprovasemos e vos mandasemos dar nuestra carta de previllejo della o como la nuestra merced fuese, e nos acatando lo suso dicho e los muchos e buenos e leales e grandes e continuos servicios que vos el dicho Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante e Viso Rey e Governador delas yslas e tierra firme deseubiertas e por deseubryr enel mar oceano, en la parte delas Yndias, nos avedes fecho e esperamos que nos bareis, espeçial mente en deseobryr e traber a nuestro poder e so nuestro Señorio alas dichas yslas e tierra firme, mayor mente por que esperamos con ayuda de Dios nuestro Señor redundara en mucho servicio suyo e honrra nuestra e pro e utilidad de nuestros reynos e señorios, por que esperamos con ayuda de Dios que los pobladores Yndios delas dichas Yndias se convertiran a nuestra santa fe catolica, tovimoslo por bien e por esta dicha nuestra carta de previllejo o por el dicho su traslado signado como dicho es, de nuestro propio motivo e çierta çiençia e poderio real absoluto de que en esta parte queremos usar e usamos, confirmamos e aproamos para agora e para syempre jamas a vos el dicho Don Christoval Colon, e a los dichos vuestros hijos, nietos e dependientes de vos e dellos e a vuestros herederos,

la sobre dicha nuesta carta suso incorporada e la merced enella contenida, e queremos e mandamos e es nuestra merced e voluntad que vos vala e sea guardada a vos e a vuestros hijos e descendientes agora e de aqui adelante, ynviolable mente para agora e para sienpre jamas en todo e por todo bien e cumplida mente segund e por la forma e manera que enella se contiene, e sy necesario es agora de nuevo vos fazemos la dicha merced e defendemos firme mente que ninguna ni algunas personas non sean osadas de vos yr ni venir contra ella ni contra parte della por vos lo quebrantarni men- guar en tienpo alguno ni por alguna manera, sobre lo qual mandamos al Principe Don Juan nuestro muy caro e muy amado hijo e a los Ynfantes, duques, perlados, marqueses, condes, ricos omes, maestres delas ordenes, priores, comendadores e subcomendadores e a los del nuestro Consejo, oydores dela nuestra abdiencia, alcaldes, alguaziles e otras justicias quales quier dela nuestra casa e corte e chancilleria e al-

caydes delos castillos e casas fuertes e llanas e a todos los conçejos, asyistentes, corregidores, alcaldes, alguasiles, merinos, prebostes, e a otras justicias de todas las çibdades e villas e logares delos nuestros reynos e señorios e a cada uno dellos que vos guarden e hagan guardar esta dicha nuestra carta de previllejo e confirmacion e la carta de merced enella contenida e contra el tenor e forma della no vos vayan ni pasen, ni consientan yr ni pasar en tienpo alguno ni por alguna manera solas penas enella contenidas delo qual vos mandamos dar esta dicha nuestra carta de previllejo e confirmacion escrita en pargamino de cuero e firmada de nuestros nonbres e sellada con nuestro sello de plomo pendiente en filos de seda a colores la qual mandamos al nuestro chançiller mayordomo e notario e a los otros ofiçiales que estan ala tabla delos nuestros sellos que sellen e libren e pasen lo qual todo que dicho es enlos dichos capitulos suso incorporados, y en esta nuestra confirmacion contenidos queremos, e es nuestra merced e voluntad que se guarde e cumpla asy segunt que enellos se contiene e los unos ni los otros non fagades ni fagan ende al por alguna manera so pena dela nuestra merced e de diez mill maravedis para la nuestra camera a cada uno que lo contrario fiziere, e demas mandamos al ome que vos esta nuestra carta mostrare que vos enplase que parescades ante nos en la nuestra corte do quier que nos seamos del dia que vos enplasare fasta quinze dias primeros siguientes sola dicha pena, sola qual mandamos a qual quier escrivano publico que para esto fuere llamado que de ende al que gela mostrare testimonio signado con su signo por que nos sepamos en como se cumple nuestro mandado. Dada en la çibdad de Burgos a veynte a tress dias del mes de Abril año del naçimiento de nuestro Señor Jesu Christo de mill e quatroçientos e noventa e syete años.

our aforesaid patent incorporated abobe, and the favour therein contained; and we desire and command and it is our will and pleasure that it be valid and be observed to you and to your sons and descendants now and from henceforth inviolably for the present time and for ever, in everything and by everything, fully and completely, according to and in the form and manner contained therein; and if it be necessary we now again confer upon you the said favour, and we firmly forbid that any person or persons shall dare to hinder you contrary thereto or to any part thereof, so as to violate or diminish it, at any time or in any manner: Whereupon we command the Prince Don John, our very dear and well beloved son, and the Infantes, dukes, prelates, marquises, counts, grandees, masters of orders, priors, commanders and subcommanders, and the members of our Council, auditors of our Chamber, alcaldes, bailiffs and other justices whomsoever of our palace and court and chancery, and governors of castles and of fortified and unfortified palaces, and all councillors, assistants, governors, alcaldes, bailiffs, judges, probosts and other justices of all the cities, towns and places of our kingdoms and dominions, and each one of them, to observe and cause to be observed to you this our said patent of privilege and confirmation and the charter of grace therein contained, and that they do not hinder you contrary to the tenor and form thereof, nor agree to do so, at any time or in any manner, under the penalties therein contained: Whereof we order to be delivered to you this our said patent of privilege and confirmation, written on parchment of skin, and signed with our names and sealed with our seal of lead hanging from threads of coloured silk, which we command our chancellor, steward and notary, and the other officials who are at the board of our seals, to seal, dispatch and pass: All which, as it is stated in the said articles incorporated abobe and contained in this our confirmation, we desire and it is our will and pleasure that it be observed and fulfilled thus, according to what is contained therein; and neither one nor the other of you or them shall do contrary thereto in any manner, under penalty of our displeasure and of ten thousand maravedis for our chamber upon each one who shall do the contrary. And further we command the man who shall exhibit to you this our patent to cite you to appear before us in our court, wheresoever we may be, within fifteen days from the day of citation, under the said penalty, under which we command every public scrivener who may be summoned for this purpose to give to the person who shall exhibit it a certificate thereof signed with his signature, in order that we may know how our command is fulfilled. Given in the city of Burgos, on the twenty-third day of the month of April, in the year of the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and ninety-seven.

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I the King. I the Queen. I, Ferdinand Alvares of Toledo, secretary of the King and of the Queen our Lords, caused it to be written by their command. Anthony Doctor. Registered. Doctor Roderick, Doctor Anthony, Doctor Ferdinand Alvares, John Melazques. And on the back of the said patent of privilege was written as follows: Without chancery and without fees, by command of their Highnesses.

In the name of the Holy Trinity and eternal

Unity, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, three persons really distinct and one divine essence which lives and reigns for ever without end, and of the blessed and glorious Virgin Saint Mary our Lady, his mother, whom we regard as sovereign and advocate in all our actions, and to her honour and worship, and of the blessed Apostle Saint James, light and mirror of the Spains, patron and guide of the Kings of Castile and Leon, and likewise to the honour and worship of all the other saints of the celestial court. Now though according to nature man cannot know perfectly what God is, however great his knowledge of the world may be, yet he can know him by seeing and contemplating his wonders and the works and acts which he has done and does every day, since all works are done by his power, governed by his wisdom and maintained by his goodness; and thus man can understand that God is the beginning, middle and end of all things, and that in him they are comprehended; and he maintains each one in that state which he has ordained for them, and all have need of him and he has no need of them, and he is able to change them whenever he may choose, according to his will; and it is not in his nature to change or alter in any manner; and he is called King over all Kings, because from him they derive their name and by him they reign, and he governs and maintains them, and they are his vicegerents, each one in his kingdom, placed by him over the nations to maintain them in justice and in truth, temporally; which is shown completely in two ways, one being spiritual, as the prophets and saints have shown, to whom our Lord gave grace to have accurate knowledge of things and to cause them to be understood; the other is according to nature, as philosophers have shown, who were discerners of things naturally. For the saints said that the King is set upon earth in the place of God to fulfil justice and to give to each one his due, and therefore they called him the heart and soul of the people; and just as the soul is in the heart of man, and by it the body lives and is maintained, so in the King resides justice, which is the life and support of the people of his dominions; and just as there is but one heart and by it all the members are united to form one body, even so all the members of the kingdom, however many they may be, are one, because the King must be, and is, one, and therefore they must all be one with him to follow him and to help in the things which he has to do; and according to nature the philosophers said that Kings are the head of the kingdom

Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Yo Fernand Alvares de Toledo secretario del Rey e dela Reyna nuestros Señores, la fiz escribir por su mandado. Antonius Doctor registrada. Doctor Rodericus, Doctor Antonius, Doctor Fernand Alvares, Juan Velazques, en las espaldas dela dicha carta de previllejo estava escrito lo siguiente, sin chancilleria e sin derechos, por mandado de sus Altesas.

Enel nombre dela sancta Trinidad e eterna Unidad Padre e Hijo e Spiritu Santo tress personas realmente distintas e una esençia divina que vive e reyna por siempre syn fin e dela bien aventurada Virgen gloriosa Santa Maria nuestra Señora su madre aquiennos tenemos por Señora e por abogada en todos los nuestros fechos e a onrra e reverençia suya e del bienaventurado Apostol Señor Santiago luz y espejo delas Españas, patron e guaiador delos Reyes de Castilla e de Leon e asy mismo a honrra e reverençia de todos los otros santos e santas dela corte celestial, porque aunque segun natura non puede el ome cun-

plida mente conoçer que cosa es Dios por el mayor conoçimiento que del mundo puede aver, puedelo conoçer veyendo e contemplando sus maravillas e obras e fechos que hizo e faze de cada dia pues que todas las obras por su poder son fechas e por su saber gobernadas e por su bondad mantenidas e asy el ome puede entender que Dios es comienço e medio e syn de todas las cosas e que enel se ençierran, y el mantiene a cada uno en aquel estado que las borden, y todos le han menester y el no ha menester aellas y el las puede mudar cada vez que quisiere segund su voluntad, y non puede caber enel que se mude ni se canbie en alguna manera, y el es dicho Rey sobre todos los Reyes por que del han ellos nonbre e por el reynan y el los gobierna e mantiene los quales son vicarios suyos cada uno en su reyno puestos por el sobre las gentes para los mantener en justiçia, y en verdad tenporal mente lo qual se muestra cunplida mente en dos maneras, la una dellas es espiritual segund lo mostraron los profetas, y los santos aquiennuestro Señor graçia de saber las cosas çierta mente e las hazer entender, la otra manera segund natura asy como lo mostraron los omes sabios que fueron conoçedores delas cosas natural mente ca los Santos dixeron que el Rey es puesto enla tierra en lugar de Dios para cunplir la justiçia, e dar a cada uno su derecho, y porende lo llamaron coraçon, y alma del pueblo, e asy como el alma esta enel coraçon del ome, y por el vive el cuerpo y se mantiene, asy enel Rey esta la justiçia que es vida e mantenimiento del pueblo de su señorio, e asy como el coraçon es uno e por el reçiben todos los otros miembros unidad para ser un cuerpo bien asy todos los del reyno maguer sean muchos son uno, porque el Rey deve ser, y es uno y por eso deven ser todos unos conel para lo seguir e ayudar enlas cosas que ha de fazer, y natural mente dixeron los sabios que los Reyes son cabeça del reyno

por que como dela cabeça naçen los sentidos, porque se mandan todos los miembros del cuerpo, bien así por el mandamiento que naçe del Rey, que es Señor y cabeça de todos los del reyno, se deven mandar y guiar y lo obedecer, y tan grande es el derecho del poder delos Reyes, que todas las leyes y los derechos tienen so su poderio, porque aquel no le han delos omes, mas de Dios, cuyo lugar tienen en las cosas temporales, al qual entre las otras cosas principalmente pertenece amar y honrrar y guardar sus pueblos, y entre los otros señalada mente deve tomar y honrrar a los que lo mereçen, por serviçios que le ayan fecho, y porende el Rey o el Príncipe entre los otros poderes que ha, no tan sola mente puede mas deve faser gracias a los que las merescen por serviçios que le ayan fecho y por bondad que falle en ellos, y porque entre las otras virtudes anexas a los Reyes segund dixeron los sabios, es la justiçia, la qual es virtud e verdad delas cosas, por la qual mejor e mas endereçadamente se mantiene el mundo, y es asy como fuente

donde manan todos los derechos e dura por sienpre en las voluntades delos omes justos, e nunca desfalleçe, e da e reparte a cada uno yqual mente su derecho, e comprehende ensi todas las virtudes principales, y naçe della mui grand utilidad, por que faze vivir cuerda mente y en paz a cada uno segund su estado, syn culpa e syn yerro, e los buenos se basen por ella mejores, reçibiendo galardones por los bienes que fizieron, e los otros por ella se endereçan e emiendan, la qual justiçia tiene ensi doss partes principales, la una es comutativa que es entre un ome e otro, la otra es distributiva, en la qual consiguen los galardones e remuneraciones delos buenos e virtuosos trabajos e serviçios, que los buenos fassen a los reyes e príncipes e ala cosa publica de sus reynos. E por que segund disen las leyes, dar galardón, a los que bien e leal mente syrven, es cosa que conviene mucho a todos los omes mayor mente a los reyes e príncipes e grandes señores, que tienen poder delo faser, y a ellos es propia cosa honrrar y sublimar a aquellos que bien e leal mente le syrven, e sus virtudes e serviçios lo merescen, y en galardonar los buenos fechos, los Reyes que lo fassen muestran ser conoçedores dela virtud, otrosy justiçieros, ca la justiçia non es tan sola mente en escarmentar los malos mas aun en galardonar los buenos, y demas desto naçe della otra grand utilidad, porque da voluntad a los buenos para ser mas virtuosos e a los malos para emendarse, y quando asy no se base podria acaesçer por contrario, y porque entre los otros galardones e remuneraciones que los Reyes pueden faser a los que bien e leal mente le syrven, es honrrarlos e sublimarlos entre los otros de su linage, e los ennobleçer e decorar e honrrar e les faser otros muchos bienes e gracias e merçedes, porende considerando, e acatando lo suso dicho, queremos que sepan por esta nuestra carta de privilegio, o por su traslado signado de escrivano publico, todos los que agora son

for as from the head proceed the perceptions by which all the members of the body are directed, even so by the mandate which proceeds from the King, who is lord and head of all the members of the kingdom, they must be governed and directed, and must pay obedience thereto; and so great is the authority of the power of kings, that all laws and rights are subject to their power, for they do not derive it from men, but from God, whose place they occupy in matters temporal; to whom among other things it chiefly appertains to love, honour and protect his people, and among others he must especially select and honour those who deserve it on account of the services they have rendered to him; and therefore the king or prince, among his other powers, not only can but ought to bestow favours upon those who are deserving thereof for the services they have rendered to him, and for the goodness he may find in them. And because among the other virtues appertaining to kings, according to the saying of the philosophers, justice is one, and is the virtue and truth of things, and by it the world is best and most righteously maintained, and it is, as it were, a fountain from which all rights flow, and it always exists in the dispositions of just men, never failing, and giving and distributing to each his due; and it comprehends in itself all the principal virtues, and very great utility arises therefrom, for it causes every one to live prudently and peaceably according to his condition, without fault and without error; and thereby the good become better, receiving rewards for the good deeds they have done, and the others are reformed and amended. And this justice consists of two principal parts, the one commutative, which is between one man and another, the other distributive, in which are obtained the rewards and remunerations of the good and virtuous labours and services which good men do for kings and princes and for the public welfare of their kingdoms. And since, as the laws declare, to give rewards to those who serve well and faithfully is a thing which is very becoming to all men, but especially to kings, princes and great lords, who have the power to do it, and it is their peculiar privilege to honour and exalt those who serve them well and faithfully, and whose virtues and services deserve it; and in rewarding good deeds the kings who do so show that they are discerners of virtue and likewise administrators of justice, for justice does not consist only in the exemplary punishment of evildoers, but also in rewarding the good. And moreover another great utility arises therefrom, for it incites the good to become more virtuous and the wicked to amend themselves, and when this course is not pursued the contrary might happen. And since among the other rewards and remunerations which kings can bestow upon those who serve them well and faithfully they can honour them and elevate them among the others of their family, and ennoble, decorate, and honour them, and confer many other benefits, graces and favours upon them: Therefore considering and taking into account all that is aforesaid, we desire that by this our patent of privilege, or by the transcript thereof signed by a public scribe, all who now are

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and shall be from henceforth may know that we Don Ferdinand and Donna Isabella, by the grace of God King and Queen of Castile, Leon, Aragon, Sicily, Granada, Toledo, Valencia, Galicia, Majorca, Seville, Sardinia, Corsica, Murcia, Jaen, Algarbe, Algeciras, Gibraltar and the Canary Islands; Count and Countess of Barcelona; Lords of Biscay and Molina; Dukes of Athens and Neopatria; Counts of Roussillon and Cerdagne, Marquises of Oristano and Goziano, have seen a patent of grace, signed with our names and sealed with our seal, made in this manner: **DON** Ferdinand and Donna Isabella, by the grace of God King and Queen of Castile, Leon, Aragon, Sicily, Granada, Toledo, Valencia, Galicia, Majorca, Seville, Sardinia, Cordoba, Corsica, Murcia, Jaen, Algarbe, Algeciras, Gibraltar and the Canary Islands; Count and Countess of Barcelona; Lords of Biscay and Molina; Dukes of Athens and Neopatria, Counts of Roussillon and Cerdagne, Marquises of Oristano and Goziano: Forasmuch as you, Christopher Columbus, are going by our command, with some of our ships and with our subjects, to discover and acquire certain islands and mainland in the ocean, and it is hoped that, by the help of God, some of the said islands and mainland in the said ocean will be discovered and acquired by your pains and industry; and therefore it is a just and reasonable thing that since you incur the said danger for our service you should be rewarded for it, and as we desire to honour and labour you on account of what is aforesaid, it is our will and pleasure that you the said Christopher Columbus, after you have discovered and acquired the said islands and mainland in the said ocean, or any of them whatsoever, shall be our Admiral of the said islands and mainland which you may thus discover and acquire, and shall be our Admiral and Viceroy and Governor therein, and shall be empowered from that time forward to call and entitle yourself Don Christopher Columbus, and that your sons and successors in the said office and charge may likewise entitle and call themselves Don, and Admiral and Viceroy and Governor thereof; and that you may have power to use and exercise the said office of Admiral, together with the said office of Viceroy and Governor of the said islands and mainland which you may thus discover and acquire, by yourself or by your lieutenants, and to hear and determine all the suits and causes civil and criminal appertaining to the said office of Admiralty, Viceroy and Governor according as you shall find by law, and as the admirals of our kingdoms are accustomed to use and exercise it; and may have power to punish and chastise delinquents, and exercise the said offices of Admiralty, Viceroy and Governor, you and your said lieutenants, in all that concerns and appertains to the said offices and to each of them;

e seran de aqui adelante, como nos Don Fernando e Doña Ysabel, por la gracia de Dios Rey e Reyna de Castilla e de Leon, de Aragon, de Sicilia, de Granada, de Toledo, de Valencia, de Galicia, de Mallorcias, de Sevilla, de Cerdeña, de Corcega, de Murcia, de Jaben, del Algarbe, de Algezira, de Gibraltar e delas Yslas de Canaria, Conde e Condesa de Barcelona, Señores de Viscaya e de Molina, Duques de Atenas e de Neopatria, Condes de Rosellon e de Cerdania, Marqueses de Oristan e de Goçiano, vimos una carta de merced, firmada de nuestros nombres e sellada con nuestro sello, fecha en esta guisa. Don Fernando e Doña Ysabel, por la gracia de Dios Rey e Reyna de Castilla, de Leon, de Aragon, de Sicilia, de Granada, de Toledo, de Valencia, de Galicia, de Mallorcias, de Sevilla, de Cerdeña, de Cordova, de Corcega, de Murcia, de Jaben, del Algarbe, de Algezira, de Gibraltar, e delas yslas de Canaria, Conde e Condesa de Barcelona e Señores de Viscaya e de Molina, Duques de Atenas e de Neopatria, Condes de Rosellon e

de Çerdania, Marqueses de Oristan e de Goçiano, Por quanto vos Christoval Colon, vades por nuestro mandado, a descobrir e ganar con çiertas fustas nuestras e con nuestras gentes çiertas yslas e tierra firme enla mar oçeana, e se espera que conla ayuda de Dios se descubriaran e ganaran algunas delas dichas yslas e tierra firme enla dicha mar oçeana por vuestra mano e yndustria, e asy es cosa justa e rasonable, que pues os pones al dicho peligro por nuestro serviçio, seades dello remunerado, e queriendos honrrar e faser merced por lo suso dicho, es nuestra merced e voluntad que vos el dicho Christoval Colon, despues que ayays descubierto e ganado las dichas yslas e tierra firme enla dicha mar oçeana o quales quier dellas, que seades nuestro Almirante delas dichas yslas e tierra firme que asy descubrierdes e ganardes, e seades nuestro Almirante, e Viso Rey, e Governador enellas, e vos podades dende en adelante llamar e yntitular, Don Christoval Colon, e asy vuestros fijos e subçesores enel dicho ofiçio e cargo, se puedan yntitular e llamar, Don, e Almirante e Viso Rey, e Governador dellas, e para que podades usar e exerçer el dicho ofiçio de Almirantadgo, conel dicho ofiçio de Viso Rey, e Governador delas dichas yslas e tierra firme, que asy descubrierdes y ganardes, por vos, o por vuestros lugar tenientes, e oyr e librar todos los plitos e cabsas çiviles e criminales tocantes al dicho ofiçio de Almirantadgo, e de Viso Rey e Governador, segund fallardes por derecho, e segund lo acostumbrian usar e exerçer los Almirantes de nuestros reynos, e podades punir e castigarlos delinquentes, e usedes delos dichos ofiços de Almirantadgo e Viso Rey e Governador vos e vuestros dichos lugar tenientes, en todo lo que alos dichos ofiços, e a cada uno dellos, es anexo e conçerniente,

e que ayades e levedes los derechos e salarios alos dichos oficios e a cada uno dellos anexos e concernientes e pertenecientes segund e como los lieva e acostumbra levar el nuestro Almirante mayor en el Almirantazgo delos nuestros reynos. E por esta nuestra carta, o por su traslado sygnado de escrivano publico, mandamos al Principe Don Juan, nuestro muy caro e muy amado fijo, e alos ynfantes, duques, perlados, marqueses, condes, maestros de las ordenes, priores, comendadores, e alos del nuestro consejo, e oydores dela nuestra Abdiencia, alcaldes e otras justicias quales quier dela nuestra casa e corte e chancilleria, e alos subcomendadores, alcaydes delos castillos e casas fuertes e llanas, e a todos los conçejos e asystentes e regidores, e alcaldes e alguasyles, merinos, veynte e quatro, cavalleros, jurados, escuderos, oficiales e omes buenos, de todas las cibdades e villas e logares delos nuestros reynos e señorios, e delos que vos conquistardes e ganardes, e alos capitanes, maestros, contramaestres e oficiales marineros, e gentes dela mar, nuestros subditos e naturales, que agora son o seran de aqui adelante, e a cada uno e qual quier dellos, que siendo por vos descubiertas e ganadas las dichas yslas e tierra firme en la dicha mar oceana, e fecho por vos o por quien vuestro poder oviere, el juramento e solepnidad que en tal caso se requiere, vos ayan e tengan dende en adelante para en toda vuestra vida, e despues de vos a vuestro fijo e subcesor, e de subcesor en subcesor, para sienpre jamas, por nuestro Almirante dela dicha mar oceana, e por Viso Rey e Governador delas dichas yslas e tierra firme que vos el dicho Don Christoval Colon descubrierdes e ganardes, e usen con vos, e con los dichos vuestros lugar tenientes, que en los dichos oficios de Almirantazgo e Viso Rey e Governador pusierdes, en todo lo aellos, concerniente, e vos recudan e fagan recudir, con la quitacion e derechos, e otras cosas, alos dichos oficios anexas e pertenecientes, e vos guarden e fagan guardar todas las honrras e gracias e mercedes e libertades, preheminençias prerrogativas esençiones ymunidades, e todas las otras cosas, e cada una dellas, que por rason delos dichos oficios de Almirante, e Viso Rey, e Governador deveades aver e gosar e vos deven ser guardadas, en todo bien e conplida mente, en guisa que vos non mengue ende cosa alguna, e que en ello ni en parte dello embargo ni contrario alguno vos non pongan ni consientan poner, ca nos por esta nuestra carta desde agora para

and that you shall have and levy the fees and salaries annexed, belonging and appertaining to the said offices and to each of them, according as our High Admiral in the Admiralty of our kingdoms levies and is accustomed to levy them. And by this our patent, or by the transcript thereof signed by a public scrivener, we command Prince Don John, our very dear and well beloved son, and the Infantes, dukes, prelates, marquises, counts, masters of orders, priors, commanders, and members of our council, and auditors of our chamber, alcaldes, and other justices whomsoever of our household, court and chancery, and subcommanders, governors of castles and fortified and unfortified houses, and all councillors, assistants, governors, alcaldes, bailiffs, judges, beinticuatro, jurats, knights, esquires, officers and liege men of all the cities, towns and places of our kingdoms and dominions, and of those which you may conquer and acquire, and the captains, masters, mates, officers, mariners and seamen, our natural subjects who now are or hereafter shall be, and each and any of them, that upon the said islands and mainland in the said ocean being discovered and acquired by you, and the oath and formality requisite in such case having been made and done by you or by him who may have your procuration, they shall have and hold you from thenceforth for the whole of your life, and your son and successor after you, and successor after successor for ever and ever, as our Admiral of the said ocean, and as Viceroy and Governor of the said islands and mainland, which you the said Don Christopher Columbus may discover and acquire; and they shall treat with you, and with your said lieutenants whom you may place in the said offices of Admiral, Viceroy and Governor, about every thing appertaining thereto, and shall pay and cause to be paid to you the salary, dues and other things annexed and appertaining to the said offices, and shall observe and cause to be observed towards you all the honours, graces, favours, liberties, pre-eminences, prerogatives, exemptions, immunities and all other things, and each of them, which in virtue of the said offices of Admiral, Viceroy and Governor you shall be entitled to have and enjoy, and which ought to be observed towards you in every respect fully and completely, so that nothing may be diminished therefrom; and that neither therein nor in any part thereof shall they place or consent to place hindrance or obstacle against you; for we by this our patent from now

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henceforth grant to you the said offices of Admiralty, Viceroy and Governor by right of inheritance for ever and ever, and we give you actual and prospective possession thereof, and of each of them, and power and authority to use and exercise it, and to collect the dues and salaries annexed and appertaining to them and to each of them, according to what is aforesaid. Concerning all that is aforesaid, if it should be necessary and you should require it of them, we command our chancellor and notaries and the other officers who are at the board of our seals to give, deliver, pass and seal for you our patent of privilege with the circle of signatures, in the strongest, firmest, and most sufficient manner that you may request and may find needful, and neither one nor the other of you or them shall do contrary hereto in any manner, under penalty of our displeasure and of ten thousand maravedis to our chamber, upon every one who shall do the contrary. And further we command the man who shall show them this our patent, to cite them to appear before us in our court, wheresoever we may be, within fifteen days from the day of citation, under the said penalty, under which we command every public scrivener who may be summoned for this purpose, to give to the person who shall show it to him a certificate thereof signed with his signature, whereby we may know in what manner our command is executed. Given in our city of Granada, on the thirtieth day of the month of April, in the year of the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and ninety-two. **I the King. I the Queen.** **I, John de Coloma, Secretary of the King and of the Queen, our Lords,** caused this to be written by their command. Granted in form, Roderick Doctor. Registered, Sebastian Dolano. Francis de Madrid, Chancellor.

AND NOW, since it has pleased our Lord that you should find many of the said islands, and we hope that with his help you will find and discover other islands and mainland in the said ocean in the said region of the Indies, you have entreated and prayed us as a favour to confirm to you our said patent, which is above incorporated, and the favour therein contained, in order that you and your sons, descendants and successors, one after the other, when you shall have ended your days, may be able to hold and may hold the said offices of Admiral, Viceroy and Governor of the said ocean and islands and mainland, which you have thus discovered and found and shall from henceforth discover and find, with all those powers, pre-eminences and prerogatives which have been and now are enjoyed by our former and present Admirals, Viceroys and Governors of our said kingdoms of Castile and

entonces vos fazemos merced delos dichos oficios de Almirantazgo e Viso Rey e Governador, por juro de heredad para syempre jamas, e vos damos la posesyon e casy posesion, dellos e de cada uno dellos, e poder e abtoridad para lo usar e exercer e llevar los derechos e salarios, aellos e a cada uno dellos anexos e pertenecientes, segund e como dicho es. Sobre lo qual todo que dicho es, sy necesario vos fuere e gelos vos pidierdes, mandamos al nuestro chanciller e notarios, e los otros oficiales que estan ala tabla delos nuestros sellos, que vos den e libren e pasen e sellen nuestra carta de privilegio rodado, la mas fuerte e firme e bastante, que les pidierdes e ovierdes menester. E los unos ni los otros non fagades ni fagan ende al por alguna manera, so pena dela nuestra merced, e de dies mill maravedis para la nuestra camara, a cada uno que lo contrario fiziere. E de mas mandamos al ome que les esta nuestra carta mostrare, que los emplase que parescades ante nos en la nuestra corte do

quier que nos seamos del dia que los emplasare, a quinze dias primeros siguientes sola dicha pena, sola qual mandamos a qual quier escrivano publico, que para esto fuere llamado, que de ende al que gela mostrare testimonio signado con su signo, por que nos sepamos en como se cumple nuestro mandado. Dada en la nuestra cibdad de Granada a treynta dias del mes de Abril, año del nascimiento de nuestro Señor Jesu Christo de mill e quatrocientos e noventa e dos años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Yo Iohan de Coloma Secretario del Rey e dela Reyna nuestros Señores la fis escrivir por su mandado. Acordada en forma. Rodericus Doctor. Registrada. Savastian Dolano. Francisco de Madrid Chanciller. **E AGORA** porque plugo a nuestro Señor que vos fallastes muchas delas dichas yslas e esperamos con la ayuda suya que fallareys e descubrireyis otras yslas, e tierra firme enel dicho mar oceano, ala dicha parte delas Indias, Nos suplicastes e pedistes por merced, que vos confirmasemos la dicha nuestra carta, que de suso va encorporada, e la merced enella contenida, para que vos e vuestros fijos e descendientes e suscesores uno en pos de otro y despues de vuestros dias, podades tener y tengades los dichos oficios de Almirante e Viso Rey e Governador del dicho mar oceano, e yslas e tierra firme, que asy aveys descubierto e fallado, e descubrierdes e fallardes de aqui adelante, con todas aquellas facultades e prebeminencias e prerogativas, de que han gozado e gozan los nuestros Almirantes e Viso Reyes e Governadores, que han sydo e son delos dichos nuestros reynos de Castilla y

de Leon, e vos sea acudido con todos los derechos e salarios alos dichos oficios anexos e pertenecientes usados e guardados alos dichos nuestros Almirantes, Viso Reyes e Governadores, o vos mandamos proveer sobrello, como la nuestra merced fuese. E nos acatando el arrisco e peligro, enque por nuestro servicio vos posistes, en yr a catar, e descubrir las dichas yslas e enel que agora vos porneys en yr a buscar e descubrir las otras yslas e tierra firme, de que avemos seydo, e esperamos ser de vos muy servidos, e por vos faser bien e merced, por la presente vos confirmamos a vos e alos dichos vuestros fijos e descendientes e subçesores, uno en pos de otro, para agora e para sienpre jamas, los dichos oficios de Almirante, del dicho mar oceano, e de Viso Rey e Governador delas dichas yslas e tierra firme que aveys fallado e descubierto, e delas otras yslas e tierra firme, que por vos, o por vuestra yndustria se fallaren e descubrieren de aqui adelante enla dicha parte delas Yndias. E es nuestra merced e voluntad,

que ayades e tengades vos e despues de vuestros dias, vuestros fijos e descendientes e subçesores uno en pos de otro, el dicho oficio de nuestro Almirante del dicho mar oceano, que es nuestro, que comiença por una raya o linea, que nos avemos fecho marcar, que pasa desde las yslas delos Açores alas yslas de Cabo verde, de setentrione en abstro de polo, a polo, por manera que todo lo que es allende dela dicha linea, al ocidente, es nuestro e nos perteneçe, e ansy vos fasemos e criamos nuestro Almirante, e a vuestros fijos e subçesores, uno en pos de otro de todo ello, para siempre jamas, e asi mismo vos fasemos nuestro Viso Rey e Governador, e despues de vuestros dias, a vuestros fijos, e descendientes e subçesores, uno en pos de otro, delas dichas yslas e tierra firme, descubiertas e por descubrir enel dicho mar oceano, ala parte delas Yndias como dicho es, e vos damos la posesyon, e casy posesyon de todos los dichos oficios de Almirante e Viso Rey e Governador para syenpre jamas, e poder e facultad para que [en] las dichas mares podades usar e usedes del dicho oficio de nuestro Almirante en todas las cosas e enla forma e manera e conlas prerrogatiuas e prebeminencias e derechos e salarios, segund e como lo usaron e usan gozaron e gozan, los nuestros Almirantes delas mares de Castilla e de Leon. E para enla tierra delas dichas yslas e tierra firme que son descubiertas e se descubrieren de aqui adelante enla dicha mar oceana enla dicha parte delas Indias por que los pobladores de todo ello sean mejor gobernados, vos damos tal poder e facultad para que podades como

Leon, and that you may be paid all the dues and salaries annexed and appertaining to the said offices as used and observed towards our said Admirals, Viceroy and Governor, or that we would command provision to be made for you in that behalf according to our good pleasure. And we, considering the risk and danger to which you have exposed yourself for our service in going to search out and discover the said islands, and that to which you will now subject yourself in going to seek and discover the other islands and mainland, whereby we have been and hope to be greatly served by you, and in order to confer a benefit and labour upon you, confirm by these presents to you and to your said sons, descendants and successors, one after the other, now and for evermore, the said offices of Admiral of the said ocean, and of Viceroy and Governor of the said islands and mainland, which you have found and discovered, and of the other islands and mainland which by you or by your industry shall be found and discovered from this time forth in the said region of the Indies. And it is our will and pleasure that you, and, after your days are ended, your sons, descendants and successors, one after the other, shall have and hold the said office of our Admiral of the said ocean, which is ours, and which commences by a limit or line, which we have caused to be marked, and which passes from the Azores to the Islands of Cape Verde, from north to south, from pole to pole, in such manner that all which is beyond the said line to the westward is ours, and belongs to us; and therefore of all this we make and create you our Admiral, and your sons and successors, one after the other, for ever and ever; and likewise we make you, and, after your days are ended, your sons, descendants and successors, one after the other, our Viceroy and Governor of the said islands and mainland, discovered and to be discovered in the said ocean in the region of the Indies, as aforesaid; and we give you present and prospective possession of all the said offices of Admiral, Viceroy and Governor for ever and ever, and power and faculty that you may be able to exercise and may exercise in the said seas the said office of our Admiral in all things, and in the form and manner and with the prerogatives, pre-eminences, dues and salaries, just as our Admirals of the seas of Castile and Leon exercised and exercise, enjoyed and enjoy it. And in order that in the country of the said islands and mainland which have been and from henceforth shall be discovered in the said ocean in the said region of the Indies, the settlers of the whole of it may be better governed, we give you such power and authority that you may be able as

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our Viceroy and Gobernor, to exercise by yourself and by your lieutenants, alcaldes, bailiffs and other officials, whom you may thereto appoint, the civil and criminal jurisdiction high and low, in mero et mixto imperio; and that you shall be able to remove or withdraw the said officers and put others in their place, whenever you may choose and may see that it is expedient for our service; who shall be able to hear, despatch and determine all the suits and causes civil and criminal which may arise and be brought forward in the said islands and mainland, and to receive and collect the fees and salaries customary in our kingdoms of Castile and Leon, annexed and appertaining to the said offices. And you, our said Viceroy and Gobernor, shall have power to hear and take cognizance of all the said causes and each of them, whenever you please, by first instance, by way of appeal, or by simple plaint, and to inquire, determine and despatch them as our Viceroy and Gobernor; and you shall have power to make and shall make, you and your said officers, such inquisitions as of right are incident to the cases, and all other things appertaining to the said offices of Viceroy and Gobernor, and which you and your lieutenants and officers whom you may appoint for that purpose shall perceive to be expedient for our service and for the execution of our justice: all which you and they shall have power to do and to execute, and to carry into due and effectual execution, just as the said officers would do and would be able to do if they had been appointed by ourselves. But it is our will and pleasure that the patents and appointments which you may give be drawn up, expedited and delibered in our name, saying, Don Ferdinand and Donna Isabella, by the grace of God King and Queen of Castile, Leon, etc., and be sealed with our seal, which we order to be given to you for the said islands and mainland; and we command all residents, sojourners and other persons who are or shall be in the said islands and mainland, to obey you as our Viceroy and Gobernor thereof, and those who shall go into the aforesaid seas to obey you as our Admiral of the said Ocean; and they shall all execute your patents and orders, and shall unite with you and with your officers to execute our justice, and shall give and cause to be given to you all the support and help which you may demand and need from them, under the penalties which you shall impose upon them and which we by these presents impose upon them and consider as imposed, and we give you authority to execute them on their persons and property. And likewise it is our will and pleasure that if you shall consider it expedient for our service and the execution of our justice that any persons whosoever who are and shall be

nuestro Viso Rey e Governador usar por vos e por vuestros lugar tenientes, e alcaldes e alguasyles, e otros oficiales que para ello pusierdes, la juridiccion civil e criminal alta e baxa mero mixto imperio, los quales dichos oficios podades amover e quitar e poner otros en su lugar, cada e quando quisierdes e vierdes que cumple a nuestro servicio, los quales puedan oyr e librar e determinar todos los plitos e cabsas civiles e criminales, que en las dichas yslas e tierra firme acaesçieren e se movieren, e aver e llevar los derechos e salarios acostumbrados en nuestros reynos de Castilla, e de Leon, a los dichos oficios anexos y pertenecientes, e vos el dicho nuestro Viso Rey e Governador, podades oyr e conoçer de todas las dichas cabsas e de cada una dellas, cada que vos quisierdes de primera ystancia, por via de apellaçion o por simple querella, e las ver e determinar e librar como nuestro Viso Rey e Governador, e podades faser e fagades vos e los dichos vuestros oficiales quales quier pesquisas a los casos

de derecho premisas, e todas las otras cosas a los dichos oficios de Viso Rey e Governador pertenecientes, e que vos e vuestros lugares tenientes e oficiales que para ello pusierdes e entendierdes que cumple a nuestro servicio, e a exsecucion de nuestra justicia, lo qual todo podades e puedan faser e exsecutar e llevar a devida exsecucion con efecto bien asi como lo farian e podrian faser, si por nos fuesen los dichos oficiales puestos. Pero es nuestra merced e voluntad, que las cartas e provisyones que dierdes, sean e se espidan e libren en nuestro nombre, Diciendo, Don Fernando e Doña Ysabel, por la gracia de Dios Rey e Reyna de Castilla, de Leon ec. e sean selladas con nuestro sello, que nos vos mandamos dar, para las dichas yslas y tierra firme, e mandamos a todos los vesynos e moradores, e a otras personas que estan o estovieren en las dichas yslas e tierra firme, que vos obedescan, como a nuestro Viso Rey e Governador dellas, e a los que andovieren en las dichas mares suso declaradas, vos obedescan como a nuestro Almirante del dicho mar oceano, e todos ellos cumplan vuestras cartas e mandamientos, e se junten con vos e con vuestros oficiales para exsecutar la nuestra justicia, e vos den e fagan dar todo el favor e ayuda que les pidierdes e menester ovierdes, so las penas, que les pusierdes, las quales nos por la presente les ponemos e avemos por puestas e vos damos poder para las exsecutar en sus personas e bienes. E otrosi es nuestra merced e voluntad, que sy vos entendierdes ser conplidero a nuestro servicio, e a exsecucion de nuestra justicia, que quales quier personas que estan e estovieren

en las dichas Indias e tierra firme, salgan dellas, e que no entren ni esten enellas, e que vengan e se presenten ante nos, se lo podays mandar de nuestra parte, e los fagays salir dellas, a los quales, nos por la presente mandamos que luego lo fagan e cumplan e pongan en obra, synnos requerir ni consultar en ello, ni esperar ni aver otra nuestra carta ni mandamiento, non enbargante qual quier apellacion o suplicacion, que del tal vuestro mandamiento fizieren e ynterpusieren, para lo qual todo que dicho es, e para las otras cosas devidas e pertenesçientes a los dichos ofiçios de nuestro Almirante e Viso Rey e Governador, vos damos todo poder conplido con todas sus ynçidencias e dependencias emergencias anexidades e conexidades, sobre lo qual todo que dicho es sy quisierdes, mandamos al nuestro chanciller e notarios e a los otros ofiçiales que estan ala tabla delos nuestros sellos que vos den e libren e pasen e sellen nuestra carta de privilegio rodado, la mas fuerte e firme e bastante que les pidierdes e menester ovierdes, e

los unos ni los otros non [fagades ni] fagan ende al por alguna manera, so pena dela nuestra merced, e de dies mill maravedis para la nuestra camara, a cada uno que lo contrario fiziere, e demas mandamos al ome que vos esta nuestra carta mostrare, que vos emplase, que parescades ante nos en la nuestra corte do quier que nos seamos del dia que vos enplasare fasta quinze dias primeros syguientes sola dicha pena, sola qual mandamos a qual quier escrivano publico, que para esto fuere llamado que de ende al que gela mostrare testimonio sygnado con su sygno porque nos sepamos en como se cumple nuestro mandado. Dada en la çibdad de Barcelona, a veynte e ocho dias del mes de mayo, año del nascimiento de nuestro Señor Jesu Christo de mill e quatroçientos e noventa e tres años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Yo Fernand Alvares de Toledo Secretario del Rey e dela Reyna nuestros Señores la fis escrivir por su mandado. Pero Gutierres chanciller. Derechos del sello e registro, nichil, e en las espaldas, acordada, Rodericus doctor. Registrada. Alonso Peres. E agora por quanto vos el dicho Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano e nuestro Viso Rey e Governador dela tierra firme e yslas, Nos suplicastes e pedistes por merced, que por que mejor e mas conplida mente vos fuese guardada, la dicha carta de merced a vos e a vuestros fijos e descendientes que vos la confirmasemos, e

in the said Indies and mainland should depart from them and should not enter nor be in them, and should come and present themselves before us, you may command it in our name, and make them depart therefrom; and we command them by these presents to do so at once and to execute and carry it into effect, without having recourse to or consulting us therein, or expecting to receive any other patent or command from us, notwithstanding any appeal or petition whatsoever which they may make and interpose against such your order. And for all that is aforesaid, and for the other things due and appertaining to the said offices of our Admiral, Viceroy and Governor, we give you full and complete power, with all its incidents, dependencies, emergencies, annexions and connexions. Concerning all that is aforesaid, if you shall desire it, we command our chancellor and notaries and the other officials employed at the board of our seals to give and deliver to you and to expedite and seal our patent of privilege with the circle of signatures, as valid, firm and sufficient as you may desire and need, and neither one nor the other of you or them shall act contrary thereto in any manner under penalty of our displeasure and of ten thousand maravedis to our chamber upon every one who shall do the contrary; and further we command the man who may show you this our patent to cite you to appear before us in our court wheresoever we may be, within fifteen days from the day of citation, under the said penalty, under which we command every public scribener who may be summoned for this purpose to give thereof to the person who shall exhibit it a certificate signed with his signature, whereby we may know how our command is fulfilled. Given in the city of Barcelona, on the twenty-eighth day of the month of May in the year of the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and ninety-three. I the King. I the Queen. I, Ferdinand Alvares of Toledo, Secretary of the King and of the Queen our Lords, caused it to be written by their command. Peter Gutierrez, Chancellor. Fees of the seal and register, nihil. And on the dorse: Granted Roderick Doctor. Registered Alonso Peres. **AND NOW** because you the said Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the ocean and our Viceroy and Governor of the mainland and islands, have supplicated us and prayed as a favour, in order that the said patent of grace may be the better and more completely observed towards you, your children and descendants, that we would confirm and

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approve it to you, and would command our patent of privilege thereof to be delibered to you or whateber else might please us. And we, considering what is aforesaid, and the many good, faithful, great and continual services which you, the said Don Christopher Columbus, our Admirall, Viceroy and Governor of the islands and mainland discovered and to be discovered in the Ocean in the region of the Indies, have rendered, and we hope will render, to us, especially in discovering and bringing into our power and under our dominion the said islands and mainland, chiefly because we hope that, with the aid of our Lord God, it will redound much to his service, and to our honour, and to the advantage and utility of our kingdoms; for we hope that the Indian settlers of the said Indies will be converted to our holy catholic faith; Have ordained, and by this our said patent of privilege, or by the said transcript thereof, signed as is aforesaid, of our own proper motion, certain knowledge, and absolute royal power, which in this matter we will to use and do use, we confirm and approve for the present time and for ever to you, the said Don Christopher Columbus, and to your said sons and grandsons, and to the descendants of you and of your heirs, our aforesaid patent incorporated above, and the labour therein contained. And we will and command, and it is our will and pleasure, that it be of force and be observed towards you and towards your said sons and descendants, now and from henceforth inviolably, for the present time and for ever and ever, in everything and by everything, fully and completely, in and according to the form and manner therein contained; and if it is necessary, we now again confer upon you the said labour, and we stringently forbid any person or persons to presume to molest you contrary thereto or to any part thereof by infringing it or diminishing it at any time or in any manner. And concerning this we command the Prince Don John, our very dear and well beloved son, and the Infantes, dukes, prelates, marquises, counts, grandees, masters of orders, priors, commanders, and the members of our council, auditors of our chamber, alcaldes, bailiffs and other justices whomsoever of our household, court and chancery, and governors of castles and fortified and unfortified houses, and all councillors, assistants, governors, alcaldes, bailiffs, judges, probosts and other justices of all the cities, towns and places of our kingdoms and dominions, and each of them, to observe and cause to be observed to you this our said patent of privilege and confirmation, and the character of grace therein contained, and not to oppose or contravene, or consent to oppose or contravene the tenor and form thereof, at any time or in any manner, under the penalties therein

aprovasemos, e vos mandasemos dar nuestra carta de privilegio della o como la nuestra merced fuesse, e nos acatando lo suso dicho e los muchos e buenos e leales e grandes e continuos servicios que vos el dicho Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante e Viso Rey e Governador delas Yndias e tierra firme descubiertas e por descubrir enel mar oceano enla parte delas Yndias, nos avedes fecho, e esperamos que nos fareys, espeçialmente en descubrir e traer a nuestro poder e so nuestro señorio, las dichas yslas y tierra firme, mayormente porque esperamos que con ayuda de Dios nuestro Señor redundara en mucho servicio suyo, e honrra nuestra e pro e utilidad de nuestros reynos, porque esperamos que los pobladores yndios delas dichas Yndias se convertiran a nuestra santa fee catolica, tovimoslo por bien, e por esta dicha nuestra carta de previlegio, o por el dicho su treslado, signado como dicho es, de nuestro propio motuo e çierta sciencia e poderio real absoluto,

de que enesta parte

queremos usar e usamos, confirmamos e aprovamos para agora e para siempre jamas, a vos el dicho Don Christoval Colon e a los dichos vuestros fijos e nietos e descendientes de vos e de vuestros herederos, la sobre dicha nuestra carta suso encorporada e la merced enella contenida, e queremos e mandamos e es nuestra merced e voluntad, que vos vala e sea guardada a vos e a los dichos vuestros fijos e descendientes, agora e de aqui adelante inviolable mente para agora e para siempre jamas, en todo e por todo bien e conplida mente segund e por la forma e manera que enella se contiene y sy neçesario es, agora de nuevo vos fasemos la dicha merced, e defendemos firme mente que ninguna ni algunas personas non sean osadas de vos yr ni venir contra ella ni contra parte della, por vos la quebrantar ni menguar en tienpo alguno ni por alguna manera. Sobre lo qual mandamos al Príncipe Don Juan nuestro mui caro e muy amado fijo, e a los ynfantes, duques, perlados, marqueses, condes, ricos omes, maestros delas ordenes, priores, comendadores, e a los del nuestro consejo oydores dela nuestra abdiencia, alcaldes, alguasyles e otras justiçias quales quier dela nuestra casa e corte e chancilleria, e alcaydes delos castillos e casas fuertes ellanas, e a todos los consejos e asystentes, corregidores, alcaldes, alguasyles, merinos, prebostes e otras justiçias de todas las çibdades e villas e logares delos nuestros reynos e señorios, e a cada uno dellos, que vos guarden e fagan guardar esta dicha nuestra carta de privilegio e confirmacion, e la carta de merced enella contenida, e contra el tenor e forma della no vos vayan ni pasen ni consientan yrni pasar en tienpo alguno ni por alguna manera, solas penas enellas

contenidas, delo qual vos mandamos dar esta dicha nuestra carta de privilegio e confirmacion scripta en pergamino de cuero, e firmada de nuestros nonbres e sellada con nuestro sello de plomo pendiente en filos de seda a colores, la qual mandamos al nuestro chanciller mayor e notario, e a los otros oficiales que estan ala tabla delos nuestros sellos, que sellen e libren e pasen, e los unos ni los otros non fagades ni fagan ende al por alguna manera so pena dela nuestra merced e de dies mill maravedis para la nuestra camara, a cada uno que lo contrario fiziere e demas mandamos al ome que vos esta nuestra carta mostrare que vos enplase que parecades ante nos enla nuestra corte do quier que nos seamos del dia que vos enplasare fasta quinze dias primeros siguientes sola dicha pena. Sola qual mandamos a qualquieres crivano publico que para esto fuere llamado, que de ende al que gela mostrare testimonio sygnado con su sygno, por que nos sepamos en como se cumple nuestro mandado. Dada enla cibdad de Burgos, a

veynte e tres dias del mes de Abril, año del nascimiento de nuestro Salvador Jesu Christo de mill e quatroçientos e noventa e syete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Yo Fernand Alvares de Toledo secretario del Rey e dela Reyna nuestros Señores, la fis escrivir por su mandado. Rodericus Doctor. Antonius Doctor. Fernand Alvares. Juan Velasques. Antonius Doctor conçertado. Y enlas espaldas del dicho privilegio desya Registrada Doctor.

EL REY E LA REYNA.

POR QUANTO enla capitulacion e asyento que por nuestro mandado se hizo e tomo con vos Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano, enla parte delas Yndias, se contiene que vos ayays de aver çierta parte delo que se oviere e truxiere delas dichas Yndias, sacando primera mente las costas e gastos que enello se ovieren fecho e fizieren, como mas larga mente enla dicha capitulacion se contiene, e porque fasta agora vos aveys trabajado mucho en descubrir tierra enla dicha parte delas Indias, de cuya cabsa non se ha avido mucho ynteresante

contained. Whereof we command to be delibered to you this our said patent of privilege and confirmation, written on parchment of skin, and signed with our names and sealed with our seal of lead hanging from threads of coloured silk; which we command our High Chancellor and notary, and the other officers who are at the board of our seals, to seal, deliber and pass; and neither one nor the other of you or them shall act contrary hereto in any manner, under penalty of our displeasure, and of ten thousand marabedis to our chamber, to every one who shall do the contrary. And further we command the man who shall show you this our patent to cite you to appear before us in our court wheresoeber we may be, within fifteen days next following the day of citation, under the said penalty; under which we command every public scrivener who may be summoned for this purpose, to gibe to him who shall show it a certificate thereof signed with his signature, whereby we may know how our command is executed. Given in the city of Burgos, on the twenty-third day of the month of April, in the year of the nativity of our Saviour Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. I, Ferdinand Alvares of Toledo, Secretary of the King and of the Queen, our Lords, have caused it to be written by their command. Roderick Doctor. Anthony Doctor. Ferdinand Alvares. John Velasques. Anthony Doctor, collated. And on the dorse of the said privilege was written: Registered. Doctor.

The King and the Queen.

IN DRASMUCH as in the capitulation and contract which by our command has been made and entered into with you, Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean, in the region of the Indies, it is contained that you are to have a certain part of what might be received and brought from the said Indies, first of all deducting the costs and expenses which may have been or shall be incurred therein, as is more fully contained in the said capitulation; and forasmuch as until now you have laboured much in discovering land in the said region of the Indies, and therefore not much profit has been received

ellas. a un q se son fof Alguemis voce y gove. yare
q ma (m) y voluntad se de vos faser mrd. y de por
dremos y mndamos q las costas y gove q faser (a)
of fof fof Carlos negans toluas dlas ofe yndias. Al
fifigie enste vinge q ygora mndamos fof car
ma q se les dize yndias. fof q qra llegalis di
li yola y obela topanola. q no se os d mnd vos elgna
dela. y vos trays. obligado a conpbur enllis vos elgna.
dmas dlo q posside al rzo de l pmer vinge. otman que vos
no pdaye (u) lleneyd vos elgna dlo que fof car (a) fof
y y de dlas ofe yolas. por fof de d qismo m dlo
qiano. que vos el duf dlmirade a dery d a d dlas vos
muebles dlas ofe yolas. ni por oga fof elgna. dlo
q a dery abul fof car. vos foforus (m). Al por q vos
de duf dlmirade dery. q dlo q (a) a dman q elyere
dlas dize yolas. fof de dery pme mnd de ofeno
y dlo q testare. fof d dery las voces q d dery
re dyesmo. Al por que dha ord d t fnd dlo duf pntula
av. parda q d dery dery pmero las voces. q d dery
re dyesmo. q d dery de ofeno. Al no rzo por a dery d
verignale como rzo ofe d fof. se ma (m) por fof (m)
a dery d d dery. q por dyesmo. q d dery pme d
ofeno q se vos d dery d dery. Al d dery d dery
las voces. d dery q d dery. q d dery d dery q se vos
el d dery. q d dery d dery. q d dery d dery
de duf d dery d dery d dery. q d dery d dery
d dery d dery d dery. Al d dery d dery d dery
f d dery por el duf d dery. no se os d ni q d dery.
de q tuncys por d dery d dery d dery. d dery
d dery q d dery d dery d dery q d dery d dery
d dery. fof d dery d dery d dery d dery d dery
d dery d dery d dery d dery. yo de fof yola
d dery. d dery d dery d dery d dery d dery
Al d dery d dery d dery d dery d dery

Fernando. E doña
yobel. por la q de Dios fof Al. fof d dery.
d dery d dery d dery d dery d dery d dery
d dery d dery d dery d dery d dery d dery

from them, although some costs and expenses have been incurred; and since it is our will and pleasure to show you favour, we will and command by these presents that of the costs and expenses which have hitherto been incurred in matters touching the said Indies, and which shall be incurred in this voyage which we do now command to be made and equipped for the said Indies, until they arrive at the island of Isabella Hispaniola, no part whatsoever shall be demanded from you; nor shall you be obliged to contribute thereto anything beyond what you expended at the time of the first voyage; upon condition that you do not demand or levy any part of what has until now been brought from the said islands, by reason of the tenth or of the eighth which you the said Admiral are to have of the moveables of the said islands, or for any other reason; and we make a present to you of what you have received until now. And because you the said Admiral say that from what shall in future be received from the said islands the eighth is first of all to be deducted, and that the costs are to be deducted from what remains, and then the tenth; and because by the order and tenor of the said capitulation it appears that first the expenses are to be deducted, then the tenth, and then the eighth; and it is not yet ascertained how this ought to be done: it is our pleasure, in order to show favour to you, the said Admiral, that for three years the eighth shall first be deducted for you, free of all expenses; and then the costs shall be deducted; and from what remains the tenth shall be deducted for you, the said Admiral; but that after the said term has expired, the said tenth, and the expenses, and the eighth are to be deducted, as it is contained in the said capitulation. And that by this favour which we grant to you for the said term, there shall neither be given to you nor taken from you any greater right than that which you possess in virtue of the said capitulation, but the same shall henceforth remain in force and vigour after the said term has expired. Done in the town of Medina del Campo, on the twelfth day of June, in the year ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen, Ferdinand Alvares. And on the dorse of this patent was written, Granted.

Don Ferdinand and Donna Isabella, by the grace of God King and Queen of Castile, Leon, Aragon, Sicily, Granada, Toledo, Valencia, Galicia, Majorca, Seville, Sardinia,

dellas, aunque se han fecho algunas costas y gastos, y porque nuestra merced y voluntad es de vos fazer merced, por la presente queremos y mandamos que las costas y gastos que fasta aqui se han fecho en los negocios tocantes alas dichas Yndias, e se fizieren en este viage que agora mandamos faser e armar para las dichas Yndias, fasta que sean llegados a la ysla Ysabela española, que non se os demande cosa alguna della, ni vos seays obligado a contribuyr en ellas cosa alguna demas dello que persistes al tiempo del primer viage, con tanto que vos non pidays ni lleveys cosa alguna dello que fasta aqui se ha traydo de las dichas yslas, por rason del diesmo, nin del ochavo, que vos el dicho Almirante aveys de aver delas cosas muebles delas dichas yslas, nin por otra rason alguna, dello que aveys avido fasta aqui vos fasemos merced. E por que vos el dicho Almirante desys que dello que aqui adelante se oviere delas dichas yslas, se ha de sacar primera mente el ochavo y dello que restare se han de sacar

las costas, e despues el diesmo, e porque por la orden e thenor dela dicha capitulacion, paresce que se deven sacar primero las costas, e despues el diesmo, e despues el ochavo, e non esta por agora averiguado como esto se ha de baser, es nuestra merced, por faser merced a vos el dicho Almirante, que por tres años se saque primero el ochavo para vos syn costa alguna, e despues se saquen las costas, e dello que restare se saque el diesmo para vos el dicho Almirante, pero pasado el dicho tiempo, que se aya de sacar el dicho diezmo e las costas e ochavo, segund en la dicha capitulacion se contiene. E que por esta merced que vos fasemos por el dicho tiempo, non se os de ni quite mas derecho del que tenays por virtud dela dicha capitulacion, antes aquella quede en su fuerça e vigor para adelante pasado el dicho tiempo. Fecha en la villa de Medina del campo, a dose dias de junio de noventa e syete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Fernand Alvares. E en las espaldas desta carta desya Acordada.

DON Fernando e Doña Ysabel por la gracia de Dios Rey e Reyna de Castilla, de Leon, de Aragon, de Sicilia, de Granada, de Toledo, de Valencia, de Galizia, de Mallorcas, de Sevilla, de Çerdeña, de

Cordova, de Corçega, de Murcia, de Jaben, delos Algarbes, de Algezira, de Gibraltar e delas yslas de Canaria, Conde e Condesa de Barcelona, Señores de Viscaya e de Molina, Duques de Athenas e de Neopatria, Condes de Rosellon e de Çerdania, Marqueses de Oristan e de Goçiano, Por quanto al tienpo que Don Cristoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano, fue a descubrir las yslas e tierra firme, que por gracia de Dios nuestro Señor el fallo, e sele descubrieron enel dicho mar oceano ala parte delas Indias, se asento conel que oviesse e levase para sy çierta parte de aquello que se fallase. E agora por su parte nos es suplicado, que por que mejor e mas conplida mente lo suso dicho se guardase e cumpliesse que a nuestra merçed pluguiesse mandar que toda la negoçiaçion e cosas que se oviesen de faser e proveer en estos nuestros reynos, tocantes ala dicha negoçiaçion delas dichas Indias que se oviesen de faser e fiziesen por una persona, o personas nuestras con poder nuestro que enello entendiesen, e por el o por quien su poder oviese, junta mente, por que asi se podria mejor saber lo que resultava delos gastos, e pro e utilidad dela dicha negoçiaçion para que sele pudiese ael acudir con aquella parte que por los dichos asientos le perteneçe, e de que nos le fezimos merçed, o sobre ello proveyesemos como la nuestra merçed fuese, e nos tovimoslo por bien, e por esta nuestra carta mandamos alas personas que por nuestro mandado tienen o tovieren cargo de entender enlo suso dicho de aqui adelante, que lo fagan e negoçien junta mente conla persona, o personas, que el dicho Almirante, o quien su poder oviere, pusiere o nonbrare para ello, e non en otra manera, lo qual se entienda, teniendo el dicho Almirante delas Yndias diputadas e nonbradas persona o personas que por su parte o con su poder enello entiendan, e siendo nos fecho saber como las tales personas estan diputadas e nonbradas por el dicho Almirante, para entender por su parte enla dicha negoçiaçion, delo qual vos mandamos dar la presente firmada de nuestros nonbres, e sellada con nuestro sello. Dada enla villa de Medina del Campo, a treynta dias del mes de mayo, año del nascimiento del nuestro Señor Jesu Xristo de mill e quatroçientos e noventa e syete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Yo Fernand Alvares de Toledo Secretario del Rey e dela Reyna nuestros Señores la fis escrivir por su mandado. Enlas espaldas desta dicha carta desia, Enla forma, acordada. Rodericus Doctor. Registrada. Alonso Peres. Francisco Dias Chanciller.

[illegible]

Don christoual colon

[illegible]

Que como Scays talis ofo yndias q'os quient' proveyes a
toda diligencia de minimar e paer. alos natyales d'los ofo
yndias. a vda paz e qetud. e que nos ayd e Scuyr. Of estuo
S' nro Senorio. e Subjeo benigna ment. e p'ncipe met
que S' amyeida una Santa fe catholic. y q'ellos e alos
que han de yr a estar talis ofo yndias tra administrado
los S'anes S'banicos. por los f'eligiosos e d'igos q' alla
estan e fueren. Por mana. q' d'os nro S'na tra Scuyr
y sus sucesores S' Scuyr.

1 Yten q por esta vez. entam q nos mandamos mas pncees
yvan deyr. Deyan con vos. Al hmo dho ygenetas e
yeyu pncees. quales vos eligierdes dho caldad e ofiios e
Gmnd e whien cula dfo yustitudo. ppy a vos pare
nepe q elegmos e aqellos q dho mndar drc brntas e ame
Gmndo e vnos ofiios en oqrs. e dho caldad e vnos p
vncs en oqrs. q vos e Gm vros podet o dicie. lo podays
fard e fagys Gmnd e cula mma e forma e cula tzo
totos qye dicies e entedicies q amyle. Amro Gm e
al he vtilidad dho dfo Gouernano. dhas dfo yndica 28

*Vten q̄ quamb Genys cylos offe Indes djos q̄riens q̄ayns
de mādiz fual y q̄ fuge cūla yola roxanola. vna ot.
joblano o fortaleza. allenk dha que esta fuge. dho ot pr
dho yola. arzana de minero de oro. Secund. El loger
e dela forma. q̄ a vos treu visto fue.*

r Y ten que azca' de la of. pobleño. o dho q' agora esta ffo
o en otra parte quee a vos os parezca dispuesto. S^t yz

The King and the Queen.

On Christopher Columbus, our Ad-
miral, Viceroy and Governor of the Ocean. The things which, in our opinion, must and ought to be done and performed, with the help of God our Lord, for the settlement of the islands and mainland discovered and placed under our dominion, and of those which remain to be discovered in the region of the Indies in the Ocean, and of the people who by our command are already there and are to go and to continue there from henceforth, besides and beyond that which by our other instruction you and the Bishop of Badajoz are to ordain, are the following.

In the first place.

That as soon as you arrive, God willing, in the said Indies, you are to strive with the utmost diligence to encourage and induce the natives of the said Indies to all peace and quietness, and to serve us and to remain lovingly under our dominion and subjection; and chiefly that they may be converted to our holy catholic faith, and that to them, and to those who have to go and dwell in the said Indies, the Holy Sacraments may be administered by the friars and priests who are and will be there, in such a manner that God our Lord may be served, and their consciences may be assured.

Item, that for this time, until we command further order to be taken, there may and shall go with you the number of three hundred and thirty persons, whom you shall choose of such rank and occupations as is specified in the said instruction; but if it shall appear to you that some of them ought to be changed, by increasing or diminishing, from some occupations to others, and from some ranks to others, then you, or whoever may have your procurator, can and may do so, according and in such manner and form, and at such time or times, as you shall find and perceive to be expedient for our service, and for the welfare and advantage of the said government of the said Indies.

Item, that when, God willing, you shall be in the said Indies, you are to give orders to found and let there be founded in the Island of Hispaniola another settlement or stronghold besides the one already established, on the other side of the island near the gold mine, according and in such site and form as you may deem suitable.

Item, that near to the said settlement, or near to that which is already established, or in any other part which may appear to you to be suitable for such purpose, there shall

religiosos e clérigos que alla estan e fueren, por manera que Dios nuestro Señor sea servido y sus conciencias se seguren.

§ Yten que por esta vez, entanto que nos mandamos mas proveer, ayan de yr e vayan con vos, el numero delas trezientas e treynta personas, quales vos eligierdes dela calidad e ofiçios e segund se contiene enla dicha ynstitucion [ynstruccion], pero sy a vos pareciere que algunos de aquellos se deven mudar, acrecentando o amenguando de unos ofiçios en otros, e dela calidad de unas personas en otras, que vos o quien vuestro poder oviere, lo podays faser e fagays, segund e enla manera e forma, e enel tienpo o tienpos que vierdes e entendierdes que cumple a nuestro serviçio e al bien e utilidad dela dicha governacion delas dichas Yndias.

§ Yten que quando seays enlas dichas Indias, Dios queriendo, que ayays de mandar baser y que se faga enla ysla española una otra poblacion o fortaleza, allende dela que esta fecha, dela otra parte dela ysla cercana al minero del oro, segund, enel logar e dela forma, que a vos bien visto fuere.

§ Yten que cerca dela dicha poblacion, o dela que agora esta fecha o en otra parte qual a vos os parezca dispuesto, se aya

El Rey e la Reyna.

Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante Viso rey e Governador del mar oceano, Las cosas que nos parecen que con ayuda de Dios nuestro Señor, se deven e han de baser e conplir para la poblacion delas Yndias e tierra firme descubiertas e puestas so nuestro señorio, e delas que estan por descubrir ala parte delas Indias enel mar oceano, e dela gente que por nuestro mandado alla esta e ha de yr e estar de aqui adelante, de mas e allende dello que por otra ynstruccion nuesta, vos y el Obispo de Badajoz aveys de proveer, es lo siguiente.

Primera mente.

§ Que como seays enlas dichas Yndias, Dios queriendo, procureys con toda diligencia de animar e traer alos naturales delas dichas Yndias a toda paz e quietud, e que nos ayan de servir, e estar so nuestro señorio e subjeccion benigna mente, e principal mente que se conviertan a nuestra sancta fe catholica, y que aellos, e alos que han de yr a estar enlas dichas Yndias sean administrados los Santos Sacramentos por los

de hazer e asentar alguna labrança e crí-
 ança, para que mejor
 e a menos costa, se
 puedan sostener las
 personas que estan e
 estaran en la dicha
 ysla, e que por que
 esto se pueda mejor
 fazer e se aya de dar
 e de alos labradores
 que agora yran alas
 dichas Yndias del
 pan que alla se em-
 biare, fasta cinquenta
 cahises de trigo e ce-
 vada prestados para
 lo sembrar, e fasta
 veynte yuntas de va-
 cas e yeguas e otras
 bestias para labrar,
 e que los tales labra-
 dores que asi reci-
 bieren el dicho pan,
 lo labren e sienbren
 e se ayan de obligar
 delo bolver ala cose-
 cha, e pagar el dies-
 mo delo que cogieren,
 e lo restante que lo
 puedan vender alos
 Christianos a como
 mejor pudieren, tanto
 que los precios no ex-
 cedan en agravio de-
 los que lo compraren,
 por que en tal caso,
 vos el dicho nuestro
 Almirante, o quien
 vuestro poder oviere,
 lo aveys de tasar, e
 moderar.

§ Yten que el dicho
 numero delas dichas
 trezientas e treynta
 personas que han de
 yr alas dichas Yndias,
 seles aya de pagar e
 pague el sueldo delos
 precios segund que
 fasta aqui seles ha
 pagado e en lugar de
 mantenimiento, que
 seles suele dar, seles
 aya de dar y de del
 pan que mandamos
 alla embiar, a cada
 persona una fanega
 de trigo cada mes,
 e doze maravedis
 cada dia, para que
 ellos compren los
 otros mantenimientos
 necesarios, los quales
 seles ayan de librar
 por vos el dicho
 nuestro Almirante e
 por vuestro lugar
 teniente, e por los
 oficiales de nuestros
 contadores mayores,
 que en las dichas
 Indias estan, e
 estovieren, e porque
 por vuestras nomina-
 s, libramientos e
 cedulas, en la
 forma suso dicha,
 les ayan de pagar e
 pague nuestro
 thesorero que
 estoviere en las
 dichas Indias.

§ Yten que sy vos el dicho Almirante vierdes e
 entendierdes que cumple a nuestro servicio que
 allende delas dichas trezientas e treynta
 personas se deve crecer el numero dellas,
 lo podays fazer, fasta llegar a numero
 de quinientas personas por todas,
 con tanto que el sueldo e
 mantenimiento que las tales
 personas acrecentadas
 ovieren de aver, se pague
 de quales quier mercaderias
 e cosas de valor que se
 ballaren e ovieren en las
 dichas Yndias, sin que
 nos mandemos proveer
 para ello de otra parte.

§ Yten que alas personas que han estado e
 estan en las dichas Yndias
 seles aya de pagar e pague
 el sueldo que les es e
 fuere devido por nomina-
 s e segund e en la manera,
 que de suso se contiene,
 e algunos que non
 llevaron sueldo seles
 pague su servicio, segund
 que a vos bien visto
 fuere, e alos que han
 servido por otros asi
 mismo.

be made and settled some kind of farm and plantation, in order that the persons who are and shall be in the said island may be the better able to support themselves, and at less expense; and to the end that this may be the better accomplished, there must be given and let there be given to the labourers who shall now go to the said Indies, out of the corn which shall be sent thither, up to fifty cahizes of wheat and barley on loan, for sowing, and up to twenty poke of cows and mares and other beasts for tillage; and that such labourers, who shall thus receive the said corn, shall sow and cultivate it, and shall bind themselves to return it at the harvest, and to pay the tenth of what they gather; and that they shall be at liberty to sell the remainder to the Christians as best they can, provided that the prices are not so high as to be oppressive to the buyers; for in such case you our said Admiral, or whoever may hold your authority, are to tax and moderate it.

Item, that to the said number of the said three hundred and thirty persons who are to go to the said Indies there shall and may be paid the wages agreed upon, at the rate at which they have hitherto been paid; and in place of the food which it is customary to give them, there may and shall be given them, out of the corn which we command to be sent thither, a fanega of wheat every month, and twelve maravedis daily apiece, in order that they may buy other necessary victuals; and these are to be delivered to them by you our said Admiral and by your lieutenant, and by the officers of our chief accountants who are and shall be in the said Indies; and therefore upon your lists, warrants and bills, in the form abovesaid, our treasurer, who shall be in the said Indies, shall and may pay them.

Item, that if you the said Admiral shall perceive and consider it advantageous for our service that the number of persons should be increased beyond three hundred and thirty, you may so do, until the number reaches five hundred persons in all; provided that the wages and maintenance which such increased number of persons will require be paid from whatsoever merchandise and articles of value which shall be found and obtained in the said Indies, without our ordering it to be supplied from other sources.

Item, that to the persons who have been and are in the said Indies there shall and may be paid the salary which is and shall be due to them by the lists, according and in the manner as it is above contained; and those who have had no salary are to be paid for their service as it shall seem good to you, and those who have served for others, in like manner.

& baster de afeitar alguna labranza de arana. De q'mejor de
 amenos costar. Se pnedra softener las personas q'esta c'esta
 ran en la d'f' esla. N. q' por q' esto se pnedra mejor faser
 N. Se aya de dar e de alos labradres q' agora yra. alos d'f's
 yndias de pand q' alla se embraze. fusta cinquenta d'f's de tipo
 e q'm d'. prestalle para lo sembrar. N. f' de deyn yuntas
 de vacas e yeguas. coque bestias. para la b'raz. N. Glos tala
 labradres que con el hubieren de d'f' pand. lo labre e siebre
 N. Se aya de obligar de lo boluer ala v' d'f'. N. pagar de d'f's
 mo d'f' q' cogiese. N. lo f' eston. q' lo pnedra vender de los d'f's
 nos de como mejor yndiere. tan de los d'f's. no c'cedan
 en d'grando de los que lo comprare. por q' ental ayo. vos el d'f'
 nro almyrat. o q'en v'ro poder odier. lo adere de tasar e mo//
 d'f's. 2

Yten el d'f' nro d'f's d'f's trezientos e yeynta d'f's
 q' ha de yr alos d'f's. yndias. Se aya de pagar e pague
 de sueldo de los d'f's q' se d'f' que f' de de Seles ha pagado
 N. en lugar de manteym' q' Seles suelde dar. Seles aya
 de dar y de d'f' pand q' mandados alla embraz. de cada yome
 una f'mega de trigo cada mes. N. d'ze nro cada d'f'a. para
 q' ellos compie los otros manteym'etos nros. los q' les
 Seles ayan de librar. por vos el d'f' nro almyrat. e por v'ro
 lugar tener. N. por los of'iales de nros cotad'os mayores
 que en las d'f's yndias estan. N. estoviere. N. por q' por v'ro
 nomynis. libram' e cedulas. en la forma suso d'f's. les
 ayan de pagar e pague mo t'f'v'rio. q' estoviere en las
 d'f's yndias. 2

Yten q' vos el d'f' almyrat v'ide e enandiere que
 cumpte a nro serujio q' allenat d'f's d'f's. q' esienas e
 treynta d'f's de Seles crear de nro d'f's. lo podays
 f' de. f' de llegar. N. nro de q' yere d'f's por d'f's
 f' de. N. el sueldo e manteym' q' se tales d'f's de
 nro t'f's odier. e ad'. Se pague de queles e de mer
 caderes e cosas de valor. q' se d'f' e odier en las d'f's
 yndias. Sin q' nos mandamos p'oneer p' ello de otra
 part. 2

Yten q' tales d'f's q' f' de e estan en las d'f's
 yndias de Seles aya de pagar e pague el sueldo de los d'f's
 f' de e yndias por nomynis e q' d'f' e en la mania q' de
 suso se odien. N. algunos que no llenan sueldo de los
 pague en prin'. Se q' d'f' de v'ro f' de. N. de los
 que han de yndias por otros d'f's f' de. 2

Yten q los allos de d. otus ad vnos pñipales d. ofiales
que dlla han estab. d. Siruj & Siruc. S. l. aya de d.
neg. tar & pagar y d. arcien y pague. Sustenencias d.
Salarios. d. Guellos q onjere & a ver. Segund q a vosel
dus nro d. m. j. r. n. p. a. r. e. f. e. r. e. q d. l. n. e. f. a. s. t. i. d. u. p. d. a. w. n.
s. i. b. e. n. o. d. l. l. a. d. d. d. h. a. s. p. e. r. s. o. n. a. s. y a l. o. q. s. c. a. d. a. v. n. o. s. e. d. y. z.
v. o. d. o. y. S. i. r. u. j. e. r. e. v. o. r. q. d. m. t. s. d. s. t. o. q. u. a. l. e. d. i. d. i. o. s. p. l. e. g. a. q.
a. y. a. d. G. h. o. l. l. e. m. u. r. d. o. G. h. i. s. d. h. a. s. y. u. d. i. c. i. o. s. n. o. s. a. v. e. r. e. m. o. s.
m. e. m. o. r. i. a. p. e. r. s. o. n. a. s. f. a. z. e. r. l. o. q. u. e. S. e. a. y. a. d. a. s. e. n. t. a. z.
m. i. t. l. o. s. d. h. e. s. u. p. e. r. o. f. i. c. i. a. l. e. s. d. i. q. S. e. l. a. a. y. a. d. l. i. b. r. a. z. & p. a. g. a. z.
C. a. l. a. f. o. r. m. a. G. u. l. o. d. i. f. f. 2

Item, that the tenements, salaries and wages which the alcaldes and other principal persons and officers who have dwelt and served and still serve there ought to receive, shall and may be augmented and paid to them, according as it shall seem to you our said Admiral that it ought to be done; regard being had to the quality of the persons, and to the time during which each one has served and shall serve; for besides this, when it shall please God that there be wherewithal to bestow rewards upon them in the said Indies, we shall be mindful to do so. And this shall be settled in the presence of our said officers, and the delivery and payment is to be made to them in the form aforesaid.

Item, when the heirs of Abbot Gallego and Andrew of Salamanca, who died in the said Indies, appear, they are to be paid the value of the casks and pipes which were spoiled and taken from them because they went to the said Indies contrary to our prohibition.

Item, in what concerns the discharge of the souls of those who have died and shall die in the said Indies, it appears to us that the form must be followed which occurs in the article of your memorial which you gave us upon this matter, and which is as follows:

Many foreigners and natives have died in the Indies, and I ordered, by virtue of the powers which I hold from your Highnesses, that they should make wills and that the same should be executed; and I gave charge thereof to Escobar, a resident of Seville, and to John of Leon, a resident of Isabella, to attend to this matter thoroughly and faithfully, as well in paying what they (the deceased) owed, if their executors had not paid it, as in receiving all their goods and wages; and that all this should be done in the presence of a justice and a public scrivener; and that all they received should be placed in a chest having three keys, and that they should have one key, a priest another, and I the third; and that these their said moneys should be placed in the said chest, and should remain there for three years, in order that in the meantime the heirs might have the opportunity of coming or sending to claim them; and that if they be not claimed within this period, they should be distributed in offices for their souls.

Likewise it appears to us that the gold which may be obtained in the said Indies should be coined, and money made of it like excellents of Granada, according as we have ordained to be done in these our kingdoms, for hereby

§ Yten que alos alcaydes e otras personas principales e oficiales que alla han estado e sirvido e sirven, seles aya de acrecentar e pagar, y acrecienten y paguen sus tenencias e salarios e sueldos que ovieren de aver, segund que a vos el dicho nuestro Almirante paresciere que se deve fazer, avida consideracion ala calidad delas personas, y alo que cada uno ha syrvido y sirviere, porque demas desto, quando a Dios plega que aya de que basselles mercedes enlas dichas Yndias, nos averemos memoria para gelas fazer, lo qual se aya de asentar ante los dichos nuestros oficiales, e que seles aya de librar e pagar enla forma suso dicha.

§ Yten pareciendo herederos del abad Gallego, e Andres de Salamanca que murieron enlas dichas Yndias, seles deve pagar el valor delos toneles e pipas que seles gastaron e tomaron, por aver ydo alas dichas Yndias contra nuestro defendimiento.

§ Yten enlo que toca al descargo delas animas delos que enlas

dichas Yndias han fallecido e fallecieren, nos parece que se deve guardar la forma que esta enel capitulo de vuestro memorial, que sobre esto nos distes, que es el siguiente.

§ Muchos estrangeros y naturales son muertos enlas Yndias, e yo mande por virtud delos poderes, que de vuestra Alteza tengo, que diesen los testamentos e se cumpliesen, e dellos di cargo a Escobar vezino de Sevilla, e a Juan de Leon vezino dela Ysabela, que bien e fiel mente procurasen todo esto, asy en pagar lo que devian sy sus albaças, no lo oviesen pagado, como en recabdar todos sus bienes e sueldo, e que esto todo pasase por ante justicia e escrivano publico, y que todo lo que recabdasen fuese puesto en una arca que toviere tres llaves, e que ellos toviessen la una llave, e un religioso otra, e yo otra, e que estos dichos sus dineros fuesen puestos enla dicha arca, e estoviesen alla fasta tres años, por que entre tanto oviesen lugar sus herederos delo venir o enbiar requerir, y sy en este tienpo no requiriesen, que se destrubyesen en cosas por sus animas.

§ Asy mismo nos parece que el oro que oviere enlas dichas Yndias, se acuñe e faga dello moneda de excellentes dela Granada, segund nos avemos ordenado que se faga en estos nuestros Reynos, porque enesto se

evitaran de fazer fraudes e cautelas del dicho oro en las dichas Yndias. E para labrar la dicha moneda, mandamos qu'elleveys las personas e cuños e aparejos, que ovierdes menester, ca para ello vos damos poder cumplido, con tanto que la moneda que se fiziere en las dichas Yndias sea conforme alas ordenanças, que nos agora mandamos fazer sobre la labor dela moneda, e los oficiales que la ovieren de labrar guarden las dichas ordenanças so las penas en ellas contenidas.

§ Yten nos parece que los Indios con quien esta concertado que ayan de pagar el tributo ordenado, seles aya de poner una peca o señal de moneda de laton o de plomo, que traya al pescueço, y esta tal moneda se le mude la figura o señal, que tuviere cada vez que pagare, por que se sepa el que no viniere a pagar, e que queda, e quando se fallare por la ysla personas que no truxieren la dicha señal al pescueço que sean presos, e seles de alguna pena liviana.

§ Yten por que enel coger e recabdança del dicho tributo sera

menester proveer de persona diligente e fiable, que enello entienda, e es nuestra merced e mandamos que que tenga el dicho cargo, e que del tributo e mercaderias que asy recabdare e cogiere e pagare, aya e lieve para si cinco pesos, o medidas o libras por ciento, que es la veyentena parte delo que asy recabdare, e fiziere coger e recabdar. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna. Fernand Alvares de Toledo. Acordada.

DON Fernando e Doña Ysabel por la gracia de Dios, Rey e Reyna de Castilla, de Leon, de Aragon, de Seçilia, de Granada, de Toledo, de Valençia, de Galizia, de Mallorcas, de Sevilla, de Çerdeña, de Cordova, de Corçega, de Murçia, de Jaben, delos Algarbes, de Algezira, de Gibraltar, e delas yslas de Canaria, Conde e Condesa de Barçelona, Señores de Vizcaya e de Molina, Duques de Athenas e de Neopatria, Condes de Rosellon e de Çerdania, Marqueses de Oristan e de Goçiano, al nuestro justia mayor e alos del nuestro Consejo oydores dela nuestra Abdiencia,

frauds and cheating with the said gold in the said Indies will be prevented. And in order to fashion the said money, we command you to take the persons, dies and implements which you may require, for we give you full power in the matter; provided that the money which shall be struck in the said Indies be conformable to the ordinances which we do now command to be drawn up respecting the working of the money; and the officers whose duty it shall be to work it shall observe the said ordinances, under the penalties therein contained.

Item, it appears to us that on the Indians who have agreed to pay the tribute imposed there should be placed a piece or token of brass or lead money, that each one may wear it on his neck; and the figure or mark borne by such coin shall be changed every time he makes a payment; in order that it may be known who has not paid; and whenever persons shall be found in the island who do not wear the said token on the neck, they are to be seized, and some slight penalty shall be inflicted on them.

Item, seeing that for the collection and receipt of the said tribute it will be needful to appoint a diligent and trusty person to attend thereto, it is our will and pleasure that should have the said charge, and that out of the tribute and merchandise which he shall thus receive, collect and pay, he shall have and take for himself five weights, measures or pounds per cent., which is the twentieth part of what he shall thus receive and cause to be collected and received. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen. Ferdinand Alvares of Toledo. Granted.

Don Ferdinand and Donna Isabella,

by the grace of God King and Queen of Castile, Leon, Aragon, Sicily, Granada, Toledo, Valencia, Galicia, Majorca, Seville, Sardinia, Cordoba, Corsica, Murcia, Jaen, the Algarbes, Algeciras, Gibraltar and the Canary Islands, Count and Countess of Barcelona, Lords of Biscay and Molina, Dukes of Athens and Neopatria, Counts of Roussillon and Cerdagne, Marquises of Oristano and Goçiano, to our Chief Justice, the members of our council, auditors of our chamber,


evitará de faser fran. l. s. de cautelas de d'p' oro. e las
 ofe yndias. de para librar la ofe moneda. man. l. mos
 ellencys lus per. Some e amos e aparezos q' oujer de me
 nester. Sa para ello vos damos poder omphib. atamo
 gla moneda q' se fizier. e las ofe yndias sea afoim
 alas or de m. r. q' nos agora m. d. mos faser. Sobilalauor
 glo mona. d'los ofuclis gla oujer de librar guarda
 lus ofe or de m. r. e las penas e las atenydas. 2. e

1. Oten nos parece. Glos Indios a. Genesta conqitad q'
 aynd de pagar. de tribu. or de m. r. e las aya de pon
 una pica o. Gnal de moneda de laton e de plomo. q'
 paya al p'seueu. y esta tal mona. Sele mudo la figur
 e. Gnal que tnyere cada vez q' pagare. por q' e
 pa. de q' no vnyere de pagar. de q' queda. de quanyor
 fallar por la yola per. Some q' tnyere la d'fe. Gnal
 tal p'seueu que. Gran p'seueu. e. Gles de el p'ma p'ma
 huyana. 2. e

2. Oten por q' enel ager e fferabandura de d'p' tribu. q'
 menester p'oneer de p'ona d'ligente e fiable. q' enelo
 entienda. de es nro. m. d. omanbmos q'
 q' tenga el d'p' argo. e que de tribu e m. r. p' q'
 e. fferabandura e agiera e pagare. aya e fferne para si
 amos p'ros. o medius e libras por cento. q' es l. d' b'
 fferna q' r. d' q' e. fferabandura e fferne ager e
 fferabandura. de de ffer. yola fferna. por m. d. de
 de ffer e d'la fferna. fferabandura de d'le. acordada. e

Confernao e d'na

y Gabel. por la gran de d'os. ffer e fferna
 de conella de leon de arago de Gnlia de granada de otel
 de valencia de gnlia de mallorca de Gnylla de andalua
 de andalua de corte de m. r. de jaha d'los algaz b'
 de algarra de gibraltar e d'las yolas de conqia de
 de andalua de barcelona. Gnylla de vizcaya e de melu
 d'na de atenas e de neopatria de d' fferollo e
 andalua. m. r. de orista e de gona. de nro. just
 mayor. de d'los de nro. g. o. de d'p' d'la nro. d'le. e

[illegible]

alcaldes and bailiffs of our household, court and chancery, and all governors, assistants, alcaldes, bailiffs and other justices whomsoever of all the cities, towns and places of our kingdoms and dominions, and to each and any of you, in your places and jurisdictions, to whom this our patent shall be exhibited, or the transcript hereof signed by a public scribe-ner, health and grace. Know ye that for the settlement of the islands and mainland discovered and placed under our dominion in the region of the Indies in the Ocean, it will be necessary to purchase in these our said kingdoms, for conveyance thereto, certain merchandise, victuals, provisions, implements, ironware, casks, butts and other things, which are to be purchased by the person who for us and for Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean, has or shall have charge thereof. And since it has been reported to us that the persons holding the said merchandise and other things refuse to sell the same, in order to enhance the price, which would be to our disservice, it is our will and pleasure that any purchases of the aforesaid articles shall be made at the prices they are usually worth: Wherefore we command you to cause to be furnished to our agents and to those of our said Admiral the aforesaid articles or any others whatsoever which they may purchase for the habitation and provision of the said Indies, and for navigating thereto, at reasonable prices and at their customary value in those said cities, towns and places, among the inhabitants thereof, without further enhancement; and you shall not act contrary hereto in any wise under penalty of our displeasure and of ten thousand maravedis to our chamber upon each of you who shall do the contrary. And further if by any one or more of you the said justices it shall remain undone and unfulfilled, we command the person who shall show this our patent to cite you to appear before us in our court wheresoever we may be, within fifteen days next following the day of citation, under the said penalty, under which we command every public scrivener who may be summoned for this purpose to give to him who shall show it to you a certificate thereof signed with his signature in order that we may know how our command is executed. Given in the city of Burgos, on the twenty-third day of the month of April, in the year of the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. I,

alcaldes e alguaziles dela nuestra casa e corte e chancilleria, e a todos los corregidores asistentes alcaldes e alguaziles e otras justicias quales quier de todas las cibdades e villas e logares delos nuestros reynos e señorios, e a cada uno e qual quier de vos en vuestros lugares e jurisdicciones, a quien esta nuestra carta fuere mostrada o su traslado della signado de escrivano publico, salud e gracia: Sepades que para la poblacion de las yslas e tierra firme descubiertas e puestas so nuestro señorio ala parte de las Yndias enel mar oceano, sera menester comprar enestos dichos nuestros reynos para llevar aellas, algunas mercaderias e mantenimientos e provisiones e aparejos e ferramientas e toneles e vasyjas, e otras cosas, lo qual ha de comprar la persona que por nos, e por Don Christoval Colon, nuestro Almirante del mar oceano, tiene o diere cargo dello. E porque nos es fecha relacion, que las personas que tienen las dichas mercaderias e otras cosas se escusan delo vender por lo encarecer mas,

lo qual seria en nuestro deservicio, nuestra merced e voluntad es que lo que delo suso dicho se comprare, sea por los precios e segund suele valer. Porende nos vos mandamos, que alas personas nuestras e del dicho nuestro Almirante, que las cosas suso dichas, o otras quales quier, que compraren para la abitacion e proveymiento delas dichas Yndias e para el navegar aellas, gelo fagays dar por precios rasonables, e segund que suelen valer enesas dichas cibdades e villas e logares entre los vesynos dellas syn encarecer mas, e non fagades ende al por alguna manera so pena dela nuestra merced, e de dies mill maravedis a cada uno de vos que lo contrario fizierdes para la nuestra camera. E de mas por qual quier o quales quier de vos las dichas justicias por quien fincare delo asi faser e cumplir, mandamos al ome que esta nuestra carta mostrare, que vos enplase que parescades ante nos, enla nuestra corte, do quier que nos seamos, del dia que vos enplazare fasta quinze dias primeros siguientes sola dicha pena, so la qual mandamos a qual quier escrivano publico que para esto fuere llamado que de ende al que vos la mostrare, testimonio signado con su sygno por que nos sepamos en como se cumple nuestro mandado. Dada enla cibdad de Burgos, a reynte e tres dias del mes de abril, año del nascimiento de nuestro Señor Jesu Christo de mille quatroçientos e noventa e syete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Yo

Fernand Alvares de Toledo Secretario del Rey e dela Reyna nuestros Señores, la fis escrivir por su mandado. Acordada. Rodericus Doctor. Registrada, Alonso Peres. Francisco Dias Chanciller.

Ferdinand Alvares of Toledo, Secretary of the King and of the Queen our Lords, have caused this to be written by their command. Granted, Roderick Doctor. Registered, Alonso Peres. Francisco Dias, Chancellor.

The King and the Queen.

El Rey e la Reyna. DON Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano, Viso Rey e Governador dela tierra firme e yslas delas Yndias, e Antonio de Torres, Contino de nuestra casa. Las cosas que nos pareçe que con ayuda de nuestro Señor Dios se deven proveber e enbiar alas Yndias para la governaçion e mantenimiento delas personas que alla estan e han de yr para las cosas que alla se han de hazer cunplideras a serviçio de Dios y nuestro son las siguientes.

Primera mente en este primer viaçe, y en tanto que nos mandamos proveber ayan de yr a estar en las dichas Yndias numero de trezientas e treynta personas dela suerte e calidad e ofiçios que de yuso seran contando el dicho numero delas dichas trezientas e treynta personas con las que agora estan e quedaron en las dichas Yndias las quales di-

chas trezientas e treynta personas han de ser elegidos por vos el dicho nuestro Almirante o por quien vuestro poder oviere e han de ser repartidas en esta manera, quarenta escuderos cient peones de guerra treynta maryneros treynta grumetes veynte labradores de oro, çinquenta labradores e [dies] ortelanos veynte ofiçiales de todos ofiçios e treynta mugeres asy que son el numero delas dichas tresientas e treynta personas, las quales ayan de yr a estar en las dichas Yndias quanto su voluntad fuere, por manera que sy algunas delas personas que estan en las dichas Yndias se quisieren e ovieren de venir ay, a de quedar e quede en ellas asy delas que agora estan como delas que agora fueren el dicho numero delas dichas trezientas e treynta personas. Pero sy a vos el dicho Almirante pareçiere que es bien e provecho dela negoçiacion de mudar el dicho numero de personas, quitando delos unos ofiçiales e proveyendo otros en su lugar que lo podades fazer tanto que no pase el numero delas personas que en las dichas Yndias han de estar delas tresientas e treynta personas e non mas.

Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean, Viceroy and Governor of the mainland and islands of the Indies, and Antonio de Torres, Continuo of our household. The things which in our opinion, with the help of our Lord God, ought to be provided and sent to the Indies for the government and maintenance of the persons who are there and who have to go thither for the matters which are there to be done in fulfilment of God's service and ours, are the following.

Firstly, in this first voyage, and until we give other command, there shall go to reside in the said Indies the number of three hundred and thirty persons of the kind, quality and employments which will be mentioned below, including in the said number of the said three hundred and thirty persons those who now are and have remained in the said Indies; which said three hundred and thirty persons are to be chosen by you, our said Admiral, or by any one who may have your authority, and are to be apportioned in this manner: forty esquires, one hundred foot-soldiers, thirty seamen, thirty midshipmen, twenty gold-workers, fifty labourers and ten gardeners, twenty officers of all grades and thirty women, thus making up the number of the said three hundred and thirty persons, who are to go and remain in the said Indies as long as they please; in such wise that if any of the persons who are in the said Indies shall desire and be obliged to return, there shall and may remain therein, as well of those now there as of those now about to go there, the said number of the said three hundred and thirty persons. But if it should appear to you, the said Admiral, to be for the welfare and advantage of the undertaking to alter the said number of persons, removing some officers and appointing others in their place, you have power to do so, provided that the number of persons who have to remain in the said Indies do not exceed three hundred and thirty persons at most.

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Item, that for the maintenance of you, the said Admiral, and of your brothers and other chief officers who are to go with you to remain in the said Indies, and for the said three hundred and thirty persons, and for tillage and sowing, and for the sustenance of the animals which you will carry thither, there shall and may be taken five hundred and fifty cahizes of wheat, and also fifty cahizes of barley, which shall and may be supplied from the corn appertaining to us out of the thirds of the Archbishopric of Seville and the Bishopric of Cadiz for the past year ninety-seven, according as it is contained in the warrants of delivery which we do command to be given thereupon.

Item, that there must be sent to the said Indies such ironware and implements as may seem good to you, the said Admiral, for tillage in the said Indies; and likewise mattocks, spades, pickaxes, hammers and crowbars suitable for the said Indies.

And likewise that besides the cows and mares which are in the said Indies there shall be made up the number of twenty yoke of cows, mares and asses, wherewith tillage may be carried on in the said Indies, according as it shall seem good to you, the said Admiral.

And likewise it seems to us that it will be desirable to purchase an old ship, in which the provisions and articles aforesaid, to the extent of her capacity, may be sent; for her decks and timber and nails might be used for the settlement which is now newly to be made on the other side of the island of Hispaniola, near the mines; but should it appear to you, the said Admiral, that it is not desirable to take the said vessel, let it not be taken.

Likewise there must be taken to the said Indies fifty cahizes of flour and as much as a thousand quintals of biscuit, for provision while mills and bakehouses are being constructed, and for the building thereof there must be taken from hence some grindstones and other implements of mills.

Item, there must be taken to the said Indies two field-tents, which may cost up to twenty thousand maravedis.

Item, with respect to the other supplies and provisions which it may be needful to take to the said Indies for the maintenance and clothing of those who are to go and to dwell there, it seems to us that the following order ought to be observed.

Let some upright and trustworthy persons be sought out, such as, it is said, you, the said Admiral, declare that

guas que estan en las dichas Yndias se ayan de cunplir numero de veynte yuntas de vacas e yeguas e asnos con que puedan labrar en las dichas Yndias segunt a vos el dicho Almirante pareciere.

§ E asy mesmo nos parece que sera bien que se conpre una nao vieja en que vayan los mantenimientos e cosas suso dichas, que copieren en ella porque dela tabazon e madera e clavazon della se podria aprovechar para la poblacion que agora nuevamente se ha de hazer en la otra parte dela ysla Española cerca delas minas pero sy a vos el dicho Almirante pareciere que no es bien llevarse la dicha nao que non se lleve.

§ Otrosy se deven llevar alas dichas Yndias cinquenta cabizes de harina e fasta mill quintales de vizcocho, para entanto que se provee de hazer molinos e atabonas e para los fazer se deven de llevar de aca algunas piedras y otros aparejos de molinos.

§ Yten se deven llevar alas dichas Yndias doss tiendas de canpo, que cuesten fasta veynte mill maravedis.

§ Yten para lo que toca alos otros mantenimientos e proveymientos que sean necesaryos llevarse alas dichas Yndias para el mantenimiento e vestido delos que alla han de yr e estar, nos parece que se deve tener la forma siguiente.

§ Que busquen algunas personas llanas e abonadas las quales diz que vos el dicho Almirante diz que

§ Yten que para mantenimiento de vos el dicho Almirante e de vuestros hermanos e otros oficiales personas principales que con vos han de yr a estar en las dichas Yndias e para las dichas tresientas e treynta personas e para labrar e sembrar e para el gobierno delas bestias que alla llevardes se ayan de llevar e lleven quinientos e cinquenta cabizes de trigo e mas cinquenta cabizes de cevada los quales se ayan de proveer e provean del pan a nos perteneciente delas tercias del Arçobispado de Sevilla e Obispado de Cadiz del año pasado de noventa e seys años segund se contiene en las cartas de libramiento que sobre ello mandamos dar.

§ Yten que se ayan de enbiar alas dichas Yndias las herramientas e aparejos que pareciere a vos el dicho Almirante para labrar, en las dichas Yndias, e asy mismo açadones e açadas e picos, y almadanas, y palancas que convnieren para las dichas Yndias.

§ E asy mismo que sobre las vacas e yeguas

teneyz casy conçertadas que ayan de cargar e llevar alas dichas Yndias los dichos mantenimientos e otras cosas alla necesarias para lo qual se les aya de dar y de delos maravedis que nos mandamos librar para esto lo que a vos pareçiere que ellos den seguridad por los maravedis que asy reçibieren, los quales ayan de enplear en los dichos mantenimientos e cargarlos e llevarlos a su costa alas dichas Yndias e que vaya a nuestro riesgo e a ventura dela mar e que llegando alla, Dios queriendo, ayan de vender e vendan los dichos mantenimientos, el vino a quinze maravedis el açunbre e la libra de tocino e carne salada a ocho maravedis e los otros mantenimientos e legunbres a los precios que vos el dicho Almirante o vuestro lugar teniente les pusierdes, de manera que ellos ayan alguna ganancia e non pierdan en ello e ala gente non se les haga agravio, e que la tal persona o personas reçibiере delos dichos mantenimientos que asy vendieren

ayan de aar e pagar e den e paguen alla a nuestro tesorero que es o estoviere en las dichas Yndias los dichos maravedis que les dierdes e asy se les han de dar para comprar los dichos mantenimientos para que dellos pague el sueldo dela gente. Pero sy la dicha gente tomaren los dichos mantenimientos para encuesta de su sueldo, sean les reçibidos en cuenta mostrando conosçimiento dello que reçibieron por donde el dicho tesorero e los ofiçiales de cuenta selo carguen en cuenta de su sueldo, e las dichas personas den seguridad e obligandose dello asy hazer e cunplir segund dicho es seles ayan de dar e den delas dichas quantias de maravedis que asy vos pareçiere.

§ *Yten se deve procurar que vayan alas dichas Yndias algunos religiosos e clerigos buenas personas para que alla administren los santos Sacramentos alos que alla estaran que procuren de convertir a nuestra santa fe catolica alos dichos Yndios naturales delas dichas Yndias y lleven para ello los aparejos e cosas que se requieran para el serviçio del culto divino e para la administracion delos sus Sacramentos.*

§ *Asy mismo deve yr un fisycos e un boticario e un ervolario e algunos ynstrumentos e musycas para pasatiempo delas gentes que alla han de estar.*

you have almost agreed with, that they may have the charge of lading and transporting to the said Indies the said provisions and other articles required there, for which there shall and may be given them, out of the moneys which we have ordered to be delibered for that purpose, whateber you may think fit; and they shall give security for the moneys thus received, which they are to expend upon the said provisions, and in lading them and conveying them at their own cost to the said Indies; and it shall be at our risk and at the fortune of the sea; and upon arriving there, God willing, they shall and may sell the said provisions, the wine at fifteen maravedis the azumbre, and a pound of bacon and salt meat at eight maravedis, and the other provisions and vegetables at the prices which you, the said Admiral, or your lieutenant shall place upon them, so that they may have some profit and not lose thereby, and that no injury be done to the people. And out of the money which such person or persons shall receive for the said provisions which they shall thus sell, they shall and ought to give and pay there to our Treasurer, who is or shall be in the said Indies, the said money which you may have given them, and which is thus to be given them to purchase the said provisions, in order that he may pay therewith the wages of the people. But if the said people shall take the said provisions on account of their wages, let them be received by them on account, they showing an acknowledgment of what they have received, whereby the said Treasurer and accounting officers may charge it to the account of their pay. And the said persons shall give security; and on their binding themselves so to do and perform as it is aforesaid, there shall and may be given them out of the said amounts of money what shall so seem good to you.

Item, it ought to be procured that there may go to the said Indies some friars and priests of good report, to the end that they may administer the holy sacraments there to those who shall be there, and that they may endeavour to convert to our holy catholic faith the said Indians, natives of the said Indies; and they shall take for this purpose the furniture and things necessary for the celebration of divine worship and for the administration of its holy sacraments.

Likewise there must go a physician, an apothecary and an herbalist, and some instruments and music for the amusement of the people who are to live there.

Moreover we have ordered a certain quantity of money to be delivered for this voyage, which you, the said Admiral, are now about to make. We command you to spend it in accordance with a report signed by the High Commander of Leon, our chief accountant, and by Doctor Roderick Maldonado, of our council, and by Ferdinand Alvares, our secretary.

Therefore we command you to cause it to be thus observed, fulfilled and executed according to what is contained above, wherein you will do us pleasure and service; and we give you for this purpose full power with all its incidences and dependencies, annexes and connexes. Given in the town of Medina del Campo, on the fifteenth day of the month of June, in the year of the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen, Ferdinand Alvares. Granted, Roderick Doctor.

Don Ferdinand and Donna Isabella,

by the grace of God King and Queen of Castile, Leon, Aragon, Sicily, Granada, Toledo, Valencia, Galicia, Majorca, Seville, Sardinia, Cordova, Corsica, Murcia, Jaen, the Algarves, Algeciras, Gibraltar, and the Canary Islands; Count and Countess of Barcelona and Lords of Biscay and Molina; Dukes of Athens and Neopatria; Counts of Roussillon and Cerdagne; Marquises of Oristano and Goziano. Whereas at the time when Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean, went to discover land in the said ocean by our command, a certain contract was concluded with him; and afterwards, when the first voyage resulted in discovering and finding, as by the grace and help of our Lord God he did find, the said Indies and mainland, we confirmed and approved the said contract and agreement made with him by our command, and we again gave and ordered to be given to him certain privileges and labours, as contained in the said contract, patents and privileges; and now the said Don Christopher, our Admiral of the said Ocean, has made report to us that we afterwards ordered our patent for provision to be issued containing certain articles, the tenor whereof is as follows: **DON** Ferdinand and Donna Isabella, by the grace of God King and Queen of Castile, Leon,

§ Otrosy agora mandamos librar cierta quantia de maravedis para este viaje que agora aveys de fazer vos el dicho Almirante nos vos mandamos que aquellos se gasten segund va por una relacion firmada del Comendador mayor de Leon nuestro Contador mayor e del doctor Rodrigo Maldonado del nuestro consejo e de Fernand Alvares nuestro Secretario.

Por que vos mandamos que lo asi fagays guardar e cumplir e poner en obra segund que de suso se contiene, en lo qual plazer e servicio nos hareys, ca para ello vos damos poder cumplido con todas sus ynçidencias e dependencias anexidades e conexidades. Fecha en la villa de Medina del Campo a quinze dias del mes de junio año del nascimiento de nuestro Señor Jesu Christo de mille quatroçientos e noventa e syete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna Fernand Alvares. Acordada, Rodricus doctor.

DON Fernando e Doña Ysabel por la gra-

cia de Dios Rey e Reyna de Castilla, de Leon, de Aragon, de Seçilia, de Granada, de Toledo, de Valencia, de Gallizia, de Mallorcas, de Sevilla, de Çerdeña, de Cordova, de Corçega, de Murcia, de Jaen, delos Algarves, de Algesira, de Gibraltar e delas yslas de Canaria, Conde e Condesa de Barcelona e Señores de Viscaya, e de Molina, Duques de Atenas e de Neopatria, Condes de Rusellon e de Çerdania, Marqueses de Oristan e de Goçiano: Por quanto al tienpo que Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano fue a descobryr tierra ala dicha mar oceana por nuestro mandado se tomo conel çierto asiento e despues quando el primer viaje vino de descobryr e fallar segund que por la graçia e ayuda de Dios nuestro Señor fallo las dichas Yndias e tierra firme le confirmamos e aprovamos el dicho asiento e conçierto conel por nuestro mandado tomo e de nuevo le dimos e mandamos dar çiertos previllejos e merçedes segund que enel dicho asyento e cartas e previllejos se contiene, e agora el dicho Don Christoval nuestro Almirante del dicho mar oceano nos fizo relacion que despues aca nos mandamos dar una carta nuestra para provysion incorporada enella çiertos capitulos, el tenor dela qual es este que se sigue: DON Fernando e Doña Ysabel por la graçia de Dios Rey e Reyna de Castilla, de Leon, de

de Aragon, de Seçilia, de Granada, de Toledo, de Valencia, de Gallizia, de Mallorcias, de Sevilla, de Çerdeña, de Cordova, de Corçega, de Murcia, de Jaen, delos Algarves, de Algezira, de Gibraltar e delas yslas de Canaria, Conde e Condesa de Barcelona e Señores de Vizcaya e de Molya, Duques de Atenas e de Neopatria, Condes de Russellon e de Çerdania, Marqueses de Oristane de Goçiano. Por quanto a nos es fecha relacion, que algunas personas vesinos e moradores en algunas çibdades e villas e logares e puertos de nuestros reynos e señorios, nuestros subditos en naturales, querryan yr a descubryr otras yslas e tierra firme ala parte delas Yndyas enel mar oceano, demas delas yslas e tierra firme que por nuestro mandado se han descubierta enla dicha parte del mar oceano e asy mesmo otros querrian yr a bivar e morar ala ysla española que esta descubierta e fallada por nuestro mandado, sy por nos les fuese dada liçençia para ello, e fuesen ayudados con

mantenimientos por çierto tienpo, e que dexan de fazerlo por el vedamiento que por nuestro mandado fue puesto, para que ninguna persona fuese alas Yndias syn nuestra liçençia e mandado so çiertas penas lo qual por nos visto, e acatando que sy descubriesen las dichas tierras e yslas, e resgatar enellas e poblar dexamos la dicha ysla española, que esta descubierta, que es serviçio de Dios nuestro Señor por que la conversaçion dellos podrya atraher alos que avitan enla dicha tierra en conoçimiento de Dios nuestro Señor e a reducirlos a nuestra santa fee catolica, otrosy que es serviçio nuestro e bien e pro comun de nuestros reynos e señorios e de nuestros subditos e naturales acordamos de mandar dar e por la presente damos e concedemos la dicha liçençia alos dichos nuestros subditos e naturales para que vayan alas dichas yslas e tierra firme e a descubryrlas e contratar enellas, conlas condiçiones e segund e enla manera que enesta nuestra carta seran contenidas e declaradas enesta guisa.

Primera mente que todos los navios que ovieren de yr ala parte delas dichas yslas en qual quier delas maneras que de yuso enesta nuestra carta seran contenidas, ayan de partir desde la çibdat de Caliz, y non de otra parte alguna e que antes que partan se presenten alli ante los ofiçiales que estovieren puestos por nos o por quien nuestro poder oviere para que sepan los que van alas dichas Yndias e ayan de cunplir e guardar cada uno en su caso lo que de yuso enesta nuestra carta sera contenido.

§ Que quales quier personas que quisieren yr a

Aragon, Sicily, Granada, Toledo, Valencia, Galicia, Majorca, Seville, Sardinia, Cordova, Corsica, Murcia, Jaen, the Algarbes, Algeciras, Gibraltar and the Canary Islands; Count and Countess of Barcelona and Lords of Biscay and Molina; Dukes of Athens and Neopatria; Counts of Roussillon and Cerdagne; Marquises of Oristano and Goçiano. Forasmuch as it has been reported to us that certain persons, citizens and inhabitants of certain cities, towns, places and ports of our kingdoms and dominions, our natural subjects, would wish to go and discover other islands and mainland in the region of the Indies in the Ocean, in addition to the islands and mainland which have been discovered by our command in the said part of the Ocean; and likewise that others would wish to go to live and sojourn in the island of Hispaniola, which has been discovered and found by our command, if licence were granted them by us to do so, and if they were assisted with provisions for a certain time; and that they refrain from doing so in consequence of the prohibition which was issued by our command, that no person should go to the Indies without our licence and command under certain penalties; which having been understood by us, and considering that if they should discover the said lands and islands, and we should allow them to traffic therein and to settle in the said island of Hispaniola, which is discovered, it would be for the service of God our Lord, for their intercourse might bring those who dwell in the said land to the knowledge of God our Lord and convert them to our holy catholic faith; and it would also be for our own service, and for the general welfare and advantage of our kingdoms and dominions and of our natural subjects: we agree to command that there be given, and by these presents we give and grant to our said natural subjects the said licence to go to the said islands and mainland, both to discover them and to traffic in them, under the conditions and in the form and manner which will be contained and expressed in this our patent, as follows.

Firstly, that all the vessels which are to go to the region of the said islands, in any of the ways that will be contained below in this our patent, shall be bound to set out from the city of Cadiz and not from any other part; and that before setting out they (the voyagers) must present themselves there before the officers who shall be appointed by us or by anyone who shall have our authority, so that they (the officers) may know who are going to the said Indies, and that each person in his own case may perform and observe what is contained below in this our patent.

That any persons whosoever who may wish to go to

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p. p. q. d. los Queda ab. la d. f. d. h. s. i. e. r. e.
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Q. Q. m. q. alla en la d. f. y. s. l. a. le. d. p. n. d. y. n. a. l. a.
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n. a. s. q. a. d. e. l. y. m. p. d. m. o. r. a. r. e. e. n. l. a. d. f. y. s. l. a. r. o. p. i. n. d. a.
al m. l. l. e. n. g. p. Q. n. e. l. d. m. d. o. m. o. d. f. e. s. d. l. l. e. s. d. i. r. a.
m. a. t. r. i. m. i. j. p. o. r. o. n. a. n. d. d. e. m. u. s. p. r. i. m. o. s. d. e. s. u. e.
m. d. y. e. n. d. o. m. l. i. r. a. s. d. l. o. s. q. m. o. p. o. d. i. t. o. m. e. r. e. d. l. o. m. e.
z. e. n. p. d. e. l. l. o. a. l. a. d. f. y. s. l. a. a. p. p. i. n. d. a. d. y. m. q. u. e.
Q. l. a. p. a. s. p. r. d. l. o. r. o. q. f. e. l. l. e. r. e. d. l. a. g. r. e. e. n. l. a.
d. f. y. s. l. a. t. m. o. q. u. o. d. a. p. u. i. t. i. s. g. a. t. e. d. l. a. s. o. t. r. a. s.
d. o. s. t. i. s. p. a. s. d. e. a. n. p. d. n. o. s. l. o. n. l. a. s. q. u. i. l. e. s. d. e. a. n. d. a.
al l. o. f. i. a. l. d. p. o. r. n. o. s. e. s. t. o. p. r. e. n. l. a. d. i. c. h. a. y. s. l. a. d.
d. m. a. s. d. e. s. t. o. y. e. n. d. o. m. l. i. r. a. s. n. y. a. p. d. e. t. o. d. n. l. a. s.
m. d. m. d. p. a. s. d. o. t. r. a. s. q. u. i. l. e. s. q. u. e. r. e. a. d. e. s. q. f. e. l. l. e. r. e. z.
e. n. l. a. d. f. y. s. l. a. d. m. d. e. l. d. i. e. s. m. o. d. l. l. o. d. n. o. s. d. e. l.
Q. m. e. n. m. d. p. o. d. i. t. o. m. p. p. d. l. o. f. f. e. n. b. i. p. e. n. b. o. e. l.
o. r. o. d. q. n. o. s. h. a. d. d. n. z. l. a. s. d. o. s. p. a. r. t. e. s. m. o. d. d. i. l. l. o. e. s.
l. o. q. u. i. l. t. o. d. n. y. a. d. d. i. s. g. a. t. e. e. n. l. a. d. f. y. s. l. a. r. o. p. i. n. d. a.
a. n. t. l. o. s. n. r. o. s. o. f. i. g. u. i. l. e. s. d. p. a. g. a. r. d. m. o. f. f. e. n. a. r. q.
p. o. r. n. o. s. l. o. m. y. c. h. e. d. d. e. r. l. i. s. d. s. d. n. y. a. s. p. a. r. a. s. t.
d. l. o. r. o. d. l. l. a. d. i. c. h. a. d. e. s. m. a. p. r. d. t. o. d. n. y. a. s. l. a. s. c. o. q. u. e.
a. f. a. s. q. u. i. l. l. a. r. e. m. o. d. d. e. s. z.

rytrun q quales Queda per somas nros Queda dntos
en naturales q Queda Queda yz d. d. q. m.
d. l. m. t. e. n. q. u. i. t. o. m. d. e. b. o. l. m. a. d. f. f. e. n. d. d.
a. b. r. y. z. q. l. a. s. e. t. r. i. a. f. r. i. n. e. e. n. l. a. d. f. y. s. l. a. p. u. i. t. i. s. g. a. t. e.
d. f. a. s. y. n. d. i. a. s. a. p. y. d. l. a. s. q. e. s. t. o. n. d. l. o. b. i. e. r. a. s. f. i. s. t. a. d. i.
q. m. a. m. o. d. o. t. r. a. s. q. u. i. l. e. s. q. u. e. r. e. d. d. i. s. g. a. t. e. z. e. l. l. e. s.
t. m. o. d. i. t. o. q. u. o. d. a. e. n. l. a. d. f. y. s. l. a. r. o. p. i. n. d. a. Q. u. e. l. i.
o. p. r. d. d. l. o. s. d. y. m. a. n. d. o. s. q. e. n. l. l. e. s. t. o. m. e. s. t. o. m. e. r. e.
q. u. i. l. e. s. Q. u. e. a. s. d. l. m. d. m. d. p. a. s. a. n. t. i. m. a. Q. u. e. d. a.
o. r. o. l. o. q. u. i. t. o. y. n. e. d. a. f. i. s. t. e. z. e. f. u. g. a. n. a. n. q. u. i. l. e. s.
q. u. e. r. e. l. i. n. a. d. i. o. s. q. Q. u. e. s. i. e. r. e. a. l. t. m. o. d. i. t. o. q. d. l. t. z. o.
d. y. p. a. r. t. i. e. r. e. d. m. l. e. s. p. r. i. m. o. s. p. a. r. t. i. m. d. e. s. d. l. a. d. i. f. a.
a. b. d. a. d. d. l. l. i. s. d. l. l. e. l. l. y. p. r. e. g. r. m. e. l. l. d. m. n. p. a.
o. f. i. g. u. i. l. e. s. d. p. o. r. q. d. l. l. e. l. l. y. f. m. d. d. l. l. e. m. e. n. r. u. d. a.
Q. u. o. d. l. o. s. t. a. l. e. s. n. a. d. i. o. s. d. m. a. c. o. d. s. s. a. d. Q. u. e. d. a.

live and dwell in the said island of Hispaniola without pay can and may go freely, and that they shall be frank and free there, and shall not pay any tax, and shall hold for themselves and as their own, and for their heirs and for anyone of them who may be entitled thereto, the houses which they shall build, the lands which they shall cultivate and the plantations which they shall make, according as lands and farms shall be allotted to them for such purpose in the said island, by the persons who have and shall have charge on our behalf; and that to such persons who shall thus live and dwell in the said island of Hispaniola and shall not take pay from us as aforesaid, provisions shall be given for one year. And further we will and it is our pleasure that if they go to the said island of Hispaniola by licence of those who shall have and hold our authority to grant it, they may have for themselves the third part of the gold which they may find and obtain in the said island, provided that it be not by barter; and the other two thirds shall be for us, which they are to pay to the officer who will represent us in the said island. And furthermore, going by licence, they may have for themselves all the merchandise and other things whatsoever which they shall find in the said island, giving the tenth thereof to us or to the person who shall have our authority to receive it; except the gold, whereof they are to give us two thirds, as aforesaid; all which they are to exchange in the said island of Hispaniola before our officers, and to pay to our receiver, who shall be empowered to receive it for us, the two third parts of the gold and the said tenth part of all the other things they may find, as aforesaid.

Item, that any persons, being our natural subjects, who may wish to do so, may go from now henceforth, as long as it may be our will and pleasure, to discover islands and mainland in the said region of the said Indies, and may go as well to those which have been discovered up to the present time as to any others whatsoever, to traffic in them, provided that it be not in the said island of Hispaniola; and they may purchase from the Christians who are or shall be therein any articles and merchandise whatsoever, provided that it be not gold; which they can and may do with any kind of ships they please, provided that at the time of getting out from our kingdoms they depart from the said city of Cadiz, and present themselves there before our officers. And because they have to take from thence in each of such ships one or two persons to

bivir e morar en la dicha ysla española syn sueldo puedan yr e vayan libre mente e que alla sean francos e libres e que no paguenderecho alguno, e ternan para sy e por suyo propio e para sus herederos e para quien dellos oviere cabsa las cosas [casas] que hizierene lastierras que labraren, e las heredades que plantaren segunt que alla en la dicha ysla le seran señaladas tierras e logares para ello por las personas que por nos tienen e toviere cargo, e que alas tales personas que asy bivieren e moraren en la dicha ysla española e non llevaren sueldo nuestro como dicho es se les dara mantenimiento por un año. E de mas queremos, e es nuestra merced que yendo con licencia delos que nuestro poder toviere e ovieren para ello ala dicha ysla española ayan para sy la tercia parte del oro que hallaren e coger en la dicha ysla tanto que non sea por rescate e las otras doss tercias partes sean para nos con las quales recudan al oficial que por nos estoviere en la dicha ysla. E de mas desto yendo con licencia

aya[n] para sy todas las mercaderias e otras quales quier cosas que hallaren en la dicha ysla dando el diezmo dello a nos o a quien nuestro poder oviere para lo recibir e çebto el oro de que nos han de dar las doss partes como dicho es, lo qual todo ayan de resgatar en la dicha ysla española ante los nuestros oficiales e pagar a nuestro reçetor que por nos lo oviere de aver las dos tercias partes del oro e la dicha diezma parte de todas las otras cosas que hallaren como dicho es.

§ Yten que quales quier personas nuestros subditos e naturales que quisieren puedan yr de aqui adelante, en quanto nuestra merced e voluntad fuere a descobryr yslas e tierra firme en la dicha parte delas dichas Yndias asy alas que estan descobiertas fasta aqui como a otras quales quier a resgatar en ellas tanto que non sea en la dicha ysla española que pueden conprar delos christianos que en ella estan o estovieren quales quier cosas e mercaderias con tanto que non sea oro, lo qual puedan fazer e fagan con quales quier navios que quisieren con tanto que al tienpo que partieren de nuestros reynos partan dessde la dicha çibdad de Caliz, e alli se presenten ante nuestros oficiales. E por que desde alli han de llevar en cada uno delos tales navios una o doss personas que

sean nonbradas por los nuestros oficiales ante quien asy se presentaren, e mas han de llevar la diezma parte delas toneladas del portedelostalesnavios de cargazon nuestra syn que por ello les aya de ser pagado flete alguno, e lo que asy llevaren nuestro lo descarguen en la dicha ysla española, e lo entreguen ala persona o personas que alla estovieren cargo delo recibir por nuestro mandado, dello que de aca se enbie tomando conoçimiento suyo de como lo recibe. E queremos e es nuestra merced, que delo que las dichas personas fallaren en las dichas yslas e tierra firme ayan para sy las nueve partes e la otra decena parte sea para nos con la qual nos ayan de recudir al tienpo que bolvieren a estos nuestros reynos en la dicha çibdat de Caliz donde han de bolver primera mente a lo pagar ala persona que alli toviere cargo por nos delo recibir, e despues de asy pagado sepuedan yr a sus casas, o donde quisieren con lo que asy truxieren e al tienpo que partieren dela dicha çibdat de Caliz ayan de dar

be named by our officers before whom they shall thus present themselves, and further have to carry of our cargo to the tenth part of the tonnage-burden of such ships, without being paid any freight for it; and what they shall thus carry of ours they are to unlade in the said island of Hispaniola, and deliver it to the person or persons who shall there have charge to receive it by our order, taking his or their acknowledgment for what is sent from hence as to the condition in which it is received: we will and it is our pleasure that of whatever the said persons may find in the said islands and mainland they are to have nine parts for themselves, and the other tenth part shall be for us, which they are to render to us at the time when they return to these our kingdoms, in the said city of Cadiz, whither they are to return first of all, in order to pay it to the person who shall there have charge to receive it for us; and after they have thus made payment they may depart to their own homes or whereever they choose with what they shall have thus brought. And at the time when they set out from the said city of Cadiz they must give security that they will so perform the same.

Item, that any persons who may desire to carry provisions of any kind for the said island of Hispaniola or for any other islands of the said Indies which shall be settled by our command, may transport and sell them there freely, and at such prices as may be agreed upon with the purchasers, who may pay them there in merchandise or in anything else they may have there; and that if they sell all the said provisions or a portion thereof to our officers who shall be there, for the supply of the people in our service, those officers shall and may pay for it there as aforesaid, or they may give them bills to be paid here; and upon such bills we guarantee them payment, provided that at the time when the said vessels containing the said provisions set sail, they shall depart from the said city of Cadiz, to the end that they may present themselves there before our said officers, and may take, free of freightage, the tenth part (of the capacity) of such ships of the cargo which we may order to be conveyed to the said island as aforesaid; and they shall bind themselves to pay the tenth part of what they shall bring from thence, redeeming their security according to the agreement contained above; and on their return they shall be bound to come to the said city of Cadiz to pay it as aforesaid. Likewise, forasmuch as we have granted to Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral

seguridad que lo cunpliran asy.

§ Yten que quales quier personas que quisieren llevar quales quier mantenimientos para la dicha ysla española o para otras quales quier yslas que por nuestro mandado estovieren pobladas delas dichas Yndias lo puedan llevar e vender alla francamente e por los precios que se yguaren con los compradores los quales les paguen alla en mercaderias o en otro delo que alla tovieren e que sy todo el dicho mantenimiento o parte dello vendieren a nuestros oficiales que alla estovieren para los bastimentos dela gente que ay no [nos] sirven lo ayan de pagar e paguen alla como dicho es o les den çedulas para que aca seles paguen con las quales çedulas nos les certeficamos que les sera pagado con tanto que al tienpo que partieren los dichos navios en que fueren los dichos mantenimientos ayan de partir dela dicha çibdat de Caliz para que alli se presente[n] ante los dichos nuestros oficiales e lleven syn flete la dezima [del porte] delos tales navios dela cargazon que nos mandaremos llevar para la dicha ysla segund de suso dize e se obliguen de pagar la decima parte delo que de alla truxeren rescatandose segund la capitulacion que de suso se contiene, e ala buelta sean tenudos de venir ala dicha çibdat de Caliz para lo pagar como dicho es. Otrosy por quanto nos ovimos fecho merced a Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante

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of the said Indies, that he may lade in each of the said ships which may go to the said Indies the eighth part of their (capacity), it is our pleasure that for every seven vessels which shall go to the said Indies, the said Admiral, or whosoever may have his authority, may lade one to fulfil the said stipulation.

All that is aforesaid and each item and part thereof we command to be observed and fulfilled in everything and by everything according to what is contained above in this our patent. And in order that it may come to the knowledge of all men, according as it is contained above, we order that it be proclaimed in the squares and markets and other customary places of all the cities, towns, places and ports of Andalusia and other parts of our kingdoms where it shall be requisite; and that a copy thereof be given to any persons who may desire it; whereof we command to be given and do give this our patent signed with our names and sealed with our seal. Given in the town of Madrid, on the tenth day of the month of April in the year of the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and ninety-five. I the King. I the Queen. I, Ferdinand Albares of Toledo, Secretary of the King and of the Queen our Lords, have caused it to be written by their command. Granted, Roderick Doctor. Registered, Doctor. Francis Diaz, Chancellor.

This our said patent of provision, and what is therein contained, as the said Admiral Don Christopher Columbus says, was granted to the prejudice of the said labours which he holds from us, and of the powers which we conferred upon him thereby; and he has supplicated and prayed us as a favour that in respect thereof we would command a remedy to be provided, or whatever might be our pleasure. And since it neither was nor is our intention or will to do anything to the prejudice of the said Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean, or to infringe the said agreements, privileges and labours which we have conferred upon him, but on the contrary, for the services he has done us, it is our intention to confer further labours upon him; therefore by this our patent, if it be necessary, we confirm and approve the said agreements, privileges and labours conferred by us upon the said Admiral, and it is our pleasure and we do command that they be observed and fulfilled to him in everything and by everything, according to what is contained in them. And we strictly forbid any person or persons to dare infringe them or any part of them, at any time or in any manner, under the penalties contained therein; and if the tenor and form thereof or of any part thereof be in anywise prejudicial to the said provision which we thus order to be given, and which is

delas dichas Yndias que el pudiese cargar en cada uno delos dichos navios que fuesen alas dichas Yndias la ochava parte [del porte] dellos es nuestra merced que con cada syete navios que fueren alas dichas Yndias, pueda el dicho Almirante o quien su poder oviere cargar uno para fazer el dicho rescate.

Lo qual todo que dicho es e cada una cosa e parte dello mandamos que se guarde e cunpla en todo e por todo segund de suso enesta nuestra carta se contiene. E porque venga a noticia de todos segund de suso se contiene mandamos que sea apregonado por las plaças e mercados e otros logares acostunbrados de todas las cibdades e villas e logares e puertos del Andalusia e otras partes de nuestros reynos donde convieniere ydar el traslado della a quales quier personas que lo quisiere, delo qual mandamos dar e dimos esta nuestra carta firmada de nuestros nonbres e sellada con nuestro sello. Dada en la villa de Madrid a diez dias del mess de Abril año del nas-

cimiento de nuestro Señor Jesu Christo de mill e quatroçientos e noventa e çinco años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Yo Fernand Alvares de Toledo Secretario del Rey e dela Reyna nuestros Señores, la fiz escrevir por su mandado. Acordada, Rodricus Doctor. Registrada Doctor. Francisco Diaz Chanciller.

La qual dicha nuestra carta de provision, e lo enella contenido el dicho Almirante Don Christoval Colon dize que fue dada en perjuizio delas dichas mercedes que de nos tiene, e delas facultades que por ella le dimos e nos suplico e pidio por merced que çerca dello mandasemos proveher de remedio, o como la nuestra merced fuese. E por que nuestra yntencion ni voluntad non fue ni es perjudicar en cosa alguna al dicho Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano ni que se vaya ni pase contra los dichos asyentos e previllejos e mercedes que le fizimos, antes por los serviçios que nos ha fecho, le entendemos de hazer mas mercedes por esta nuestra carta sy neçesario es confirmamos e aprovamos los dichos asyentos e previllejos e mercedes por nos al dicho Almirante fechas, e es nuestra merced e mandamos, que en todo e por todo le sean guardadas e cunplidas segund que enellas se contiene. E defendemos firme mente, que alguna ni algunas personas non sean osadas de yr contra ellas ni contra parte dellas en tiempo alguno ni por alguna manera solas penas enellas contenidas e sy el tenor e forma della [o] parte dello en algo perjudica la dicha provision que asy mandamos dar que de suso

va incorporada por la presente la rebo-
camos e queremos e
mandamos que non
aya fuerça ni efecto
alguno en tienpo al-
guno ni por alguna
manera, en quanto es
en perjuizio del dicho
Almirante e dello que
asy tenemos otorgado
e confirmado delo
qual mandamos dar
la presente firmada
de nuestros nonbres
e sellada con nuestro
sello. Dada en la villa
de Medina del Campo
a dos dias del mes
de Junio año del nas-
cimiento de nuestro
Salvador Jesu Christo
de mill e quatro cien-
tos e noventa e syete
años. Yo el Rey.
Yo la Reyna. Yo
Fernand Alvares de
Toledo Secretario del
Rey e dela Reyna nu-
estros Señores la fiz
escribir por su man-
dado. Acordada Ro-
dricus Doctor. Regi-
strada Alonso Peres.
Francisco Dias Chan-
ciller.

DON Fernando e
Doña Ysabel por la
gracia de Dios Rey
e Reyna de Castilla,
de Leon, de Aragon,
de Sicilia, de Grana-
da, de Toledo, de Va-
lencia, de Gallisia, de
Mallorcas, de Sevilla,
de Cerdeña, de Cor-
dova, de Corçega, de
Murçia, de Jaben,

delos Algarves, de Algezira, de Gibraltar e delas yslas de Canaria, Conde e Condesa de Barcelona e Señores de Viscaya e de Molya, Duques de Atenas e de Neopatria, Condes de Rusellon e de Cerdania, Marqueses de Orystan e de Goçiano, a vos los nuestros Almozarifes e recabadores e arendadores e fieles e cogedores e otras personas que tenedes o tovierdes cargo de coger e de recabdar en renta o en fieldad o en otra qual quier manera las rentas e almozarifadgo e alcavalas delas çibdades de Sevilla e Caliz este presente año dela data desta nuestra carta, e los años venideros tanto quanto nuestra voluntad fuere e a cada uno e qual quier de vos salud e gracia: Sepades que nuestra merçed e voluntad es que todos los mantenimientos e otras cosas que por nuestro mandado e de Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano en la parte delas Yndias se cargaren para llevar aellas e otrosy dello que se truxiere delas dichas Yndias a esas dichas çibdades e sus puertos, non se ayan de pagar ni paguen, por la primera venta dello, almozarifadgo ni alcavala ni otro derecho alguno este presente año ni dende en adelante quanto nuestra merçed e voluntad fuere. Por que vos mandamos a todos e a cada uno de vos que asy lo guardeys e cunplays como de suso en esta nuestra carta se contiene e en guardandolo e cunpliendolo non pidays ni demandeys ni lleveys almozarifadgo ni alcavala ni otros derechos algunos por la primera venta e carga e desscarga de quales quier mercaderyas e mantenimientos e otras cosas que pareçiere por fe de nuestros oficiales e del dicho Almirante e personas que tienen o tovierden cargo dela dicha carga e descarga [que se cargan] para las dichas

incorporated abobe, we reboke it by these presents, and it is our will and pleasure that it shall have no force or effect whateber, at any time or in any manner, in so far as it is to the prejudice of the said Admiral and of what we have thus granted and confirmed. Whereof we command these presents to be given, signed with our names and sealed with our seal. Given in the town of Medina del Campo, on the second day of the month of June in the year of the natibity of our Saviour Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and ninety-seben. I the King. I the Queen. I, Ferdinand Alvares of Toledo, Secretary of the King and of the Queen our Lords, have caused it to be written by their command. Granted, Roderick Doctor. Registered, Alonso Peres. Francis Dias, Chancellor.

Don Ferdinand and Donna Isabella, by the grace of God King and Queen of Castile, Leon, Aragon, Sicily, Granada, Toledo, Valencia, Galicia, Majorca, Seville, Sardinia, Cordova, Corsica, Murcia, Jaen, the Algarves, Algeciras, Gibraltar and the Canary Islands, Count and Countess of Barcelona and Lords of Biscay and Molina, Dukes of Athens and Neopatria, Counts of Roussillon and Cerdagne, Marquises of Oristano and Goziano, to you our customs-officers, receivers, farmers, clerks of markets, collectors and other persons who have or shall have the charge of collecting and receiving, in rent or in security, or in any other manner, the rents, customs and market-tolls of the cities of Seville and Cadiz in this present year of the date of this our patent, and in future years, as long as it shall be our pleasure, and to each and any of you, health and grace. Know ye that it is our will and pleasure that all the provisions and other things which by our command and by that of Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean in the region of the Indies, may be shipped for conveyance thereto, and likewise whatsoever may be brought from the said Indies to those said cities and their ports, shall not be required to pay nor shall pay for the first sale thereof either customs-duty or market-toll or any other duty, either in this present year or from now henceforth, as long as it shall be our will and pleasure. Wherefore we command all and each of you thus to observe and fulfil all that is contained abobe in this our patent; and in observing and keeping it you shall not ask, demand or levy customs-duty or market-toll or any other duties for the first sale and lading and unlading of any kind of merchandise and provisions, and other things which, by certificate of our officers and of the said Admiral, and of the persons who have or shall have charge of the said lading and unlading, shall be declared to be laden for the said

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for the said Indies, or on those which are brought from thence and unladen in those said cities and ports and in each of them, in this said year and from now henceforth, as long as it shall be our will and pleasure. And if you do not so perform and fulfil it, we by this our patent command all our justices to constrain and compel you so to do and fulfil it, and neither the one nor the other of you or them shall do the contrary thereof in any manner under pain of our displeasure and of ten thousand maravedis upon every one who shall fail so to perform and fulfil it; and further we command the man who shall show you this our patent to summon you to appear before us in our court wheresoever we may be, within fifteen days next following the day of citation under the same penalty; under which also we command any public scrivener who may be summoned for this purpose to give to the person exhibiting it a certificate hereof, signed with his signature, so that we may know how our command is fulfilled. Given in the most noble city of Burgos, on the twenty-third day of the month of April, in the year of the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. I, Ferdinand Alvares of Toledo, Secretary of the King and of the Queen our Lords, caused it to be written by their command. Granted, Rodrick Doctor. Registered, Alonso Peres. Francis Diaz, Chancellor.

Don Ferdinand and Donna Isabella,

by the grace of God King and Queen of Castile, Leon, Aragon, Sicily, Granada, Toledo, Valencia, Galicia, Majorca, Seville, Sardinia, Cordova, Corsica, Murcia, Jaen, the Algarbes, Algeciras, Gibraltar and the Canary Islands, Count and Countess of Barcelona, Lords of Biscay and Molina, Dukes of Athens and Neopatria, Counts of Roussillon and Cerdagne, Marquises of Oristano and Goziano, To the governors, alcaldes, bailiffs, magistrates, knights, esquires, officers and good men of the cities of Seville and Cadiz, and of the towns, places and ports of their archbishopric and bishopric, and to you the farmers and receivers, customs-officers, toll-collectors, customhouse-officers, tithe-collectors and other persons who have and shall have the charge of collecting and receiving in rent or in security or in any other manner the profits of the market-tolls,

tres dias del mes de Abril, año del nascimiento de nuestro Señor Jesu Christo de mill e quatro-cientos e noventa e siete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Yo Fernand Alvares de Toledo Secretario del Rey e dela Reyna nuestros Señores la fiz escribir por su mandado. Acordada Rodricus Doctor. Registrada Alonso Peres. Francisco Diaz Chanciller.

Don Fernando e Doña Ysabel por la gracia de Dios Rey e Reyna de Castilla, de Leon, de Aragon, de Sicilia, de Granada, de Toledo, de Valencia, de Gallizia, de Mallorcas, de Sevilla, de Cerdeña, de Cordova, de Corçega, de Murcia, de Jaben, delos Algarves, de Algesyra, de Gibraltar e delas yslas de Canaria, Conde e Condesa de Barcelona, Señores de Vizcaya e de Molina, Duques de Atenas e de Neopatria, Condes de Rusellon e de Çerdania, Marqueses de Orystan e de Goçiano. Alos corregidores, alcaldes, alguaziles, regidores, cavalleros, escuderos, oficiales e omes buenos delas çibdades de Sevilla e Caliz, e delas villas e logares e puertos de su arçobispado e obispado, e a vos los arendadores e recabadores, almoxarifes e portadgueros e aduaneros e dezmeros e otras personas que teneyse e tovierdes cargo de cogere e de recabdar en renta o en fieldado en otra qual quier manera las rentas delas alcavalas e

para las dichas Yndias e se descargan trayendolo dellas en esas dichas çibdades e puertos e cada una dellas este dicho año e de aqui adelante quanto nuestra merced e voluntad fuere e sy asy non lo hizierdes e cunplierdes por esta dicha nuestra carta mandamos a quales quier nuestras justicias que vos costringan e apremien alo asi faser e cunplir e los unos ni los otros non fagades ni fagan ende al por alguna manera so pena dela nuestra merced e de diez mill maravedis a cada uno por quien fincare delo asy fazer e cunplir e de mas mandamos al ome que vos esta nuestra carta mostrare que vos enplaze que parescades ante nos en la nuestra corte do quier que nos seamos del dia que vos enplazare fasta quinze dias primeros syguientes sola dicha pena sola qual mandamos a qual quier escrivano publico que para esto fuere llamado que de ende al que la mostrare testimonio signado con su signo por que nos sepamos en como se cunple nuestro mandado. Dada en la muy noble çibdad de Burgos a veynte e

almoxarifadgos e portadgos e almirantadgo delas dichas cibdades e villas e a cada uno de vos salud e gracia. Sepades que para la poblacion delas yslas e tierra firme descubiertas e puestas so nuestro señorio o por descubrir enel mar oceano enla parte delas Yndias sera menester traer a vender dellas a estos nuestros reynos algunas mercaderias y otras cosas y llevar aellas de aca mantenimientose otras provisiones e cosas e para el rescate delas dichas Yndias e para otras cosas que alla son e seran menester para sustentacion e mantenimiento delas personas que alla estan e abran de estar y para sus biviendas e labranças. E porque nuestra merced e voluntad es que delas cosas que asy se traxieren a estos nuestros reynos delas dichas Yndias non se pague derecho alguno antes se descarguen libremente e que del descargo dellas non se pague derecho alguno de almoxarifadgo ni aduana ni portadgo, ni almirantadgo ni otro derecho alguno, ni alcavala dela primera venta que della se hiziere, e asy mismo que los que compraren quales quier cosas para enbiar e llevar alas dichas Yndias para proveymiento e sostenimiento dellas e delas gentes que enellas estovieren, non paguen derecho de almoxarifadgo ni aduana ni portadgo, ni almirantadgo ni otro derecho por el cargar dellas, mandamos dar esta nuestra carta para vos enla dicha razon por la qual vos mandamos a todos e a cada uno de vos cada e quando se truxieren y descargaren delas dichas Yndias quales quier cosas a estos nuestros reynos que en quanto nuestra merced e voluntad fuere, los dexeys e consintays descargar las tales cosas que asy truxieren libre mente syn les llevar almoxarifadgo mayor ni menor ni aduana ni almirantadgo ni portadgo ni otros derechos algunos ni alcavala dela primera venta que se fiziere delas tales cosas que asy truxieren delas dichas Yndias mostrando vos carta firmada de Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante delas dichas Yndias o dela persona que toviere para ello su poder e dela persona o personas que por nos o por nuestros contadores mayores en nuestro nonbre estovieren enlas dichas Yndias como aquellas cosas se cargaron enlas dichas Yndias para estos nuestros reynos. E asy mismo dexeys libre mente cargar en quanto nuestra merced e voluntad fuere quales quier cosas que se llevaren alas

customs, road-tolls and admiralty-dues of the said cities and towns, and to each of you, health and grace. Know ye that for the settlement of the islands and mainland discovered and placed under our dominion, or to be discovered, in the Ocean in the region of the Indies, it will be necessary to bring from thence to these our kingdoms for sale certain merchandise and other things, and to take thither from hence stores and other provisions and things, both for the traffic of the said Indies and for other goods which are or will be needful there for the support and maintenance of the persons who are and shall remain there, and for their dwellings and farms. And forasmuch as it is our will and pleasure that on the things which shall be thus brought to these our kingdoms from the said Indies no duty whatever is to be paid, but rather that they are to be unladen freely, and that on the unloading thereof no duty be paid, whether import-duty, customs, road-toll, admiralty-dues or any other duty, nor any market-toll for the first sale that may be made of them; and likewise that those who shall purchase any goods whatsoever to send or take to the said Indies as provision and sustenance for themselves and the people who may be therein, are not to pay export-duty, customs, road-toll, admiralty-dues, or other duty for the lading thereof: we command this our patent to be given to you for the said reason, and hereby we command all and each of you that whensoever any goods shall be brought from the said Indies and unladen in these our kingdoms, you shall permit and allow such goods as have been thus brought to be unladen freely, as long as it shall be our will and pleasure, without lehying from them (the importers) greater or smaller import-duties, customs, admiralty-dues, road-toll, or any other duties, nor any market-toll upon the first sale which may be made of such goods as shall have thus been brought from the said Indies; a certificate being exhibited to you signed by Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the said Indies, or by the person who shall have his authority for that purpose, and by the person or persons who for us or for our chief accountants in our name shall be in the said Indies, that those goods were shipped in the said Indies for these our kingdoms. And likewise you shall permit, so long as it shall be our will and pleasure, the free lading of any such goods as may be taken to the

al moxari dgo al portadgo al almyrantadgo dlas
 sillas abndas e villas al amandmo d vos dlas al
 graus d padas para la yllaga d las yllas. e
 terra firme d sillas e yllas d m d p r n o r o
 e por d scrupz en l m e e r a m e n l a p d l a s y n d i a s
 f e r a m e n e s t r z t r a h e z a v e n d e d e l l a s d e s t o s m o s t h y n o s
 a l g u n a s m e r c a d u r i a s . y e t r a s u s a s y l l e n a d e l l a s
 d a c a m u t r y m p t o s a l o t r a s p m e o n s a l o s a s a l
 y a n e l t f a n t e d l a s d f e s y n d i a s a p a r a e q n s a s t i s
 a l l a e e p r a m m e n e s t r z p a r a d u s t r a e q n s a l m a t t e
 y m y e o d l a s p o m u s q a l l a e s t a e a b r a n d e s t r z
 y p e d u s b i m e d n s a l a b r a n s a l p o r q m a m d
 z v o l u n t a d e s d l a s a s a s q a d e t r a x i e r e
 d e s t o s m o s t h y n o s d l a s d f e s y n d i a s n o p a g u e
 d e r e c h o a l g u n o d u t r s d e s t r e n e l i b r e m e n t e
 a l q d e d o m r g o d e l l a s . n o p a g u e d i f i d l g n o
 d e l m o x a r i f a d g o e y d d u a n a e y p o r t a d g o e y a l
 e y r a n t a d g o e y o t r o d e r e c h o a l g u n o . y d l a m a l a
 d l a p m e r a v e n a q d e l l a d e h i s t e r e . a l q d e s t r a
 m o q l o s q a n p r a r e q u i l d s q u e r a d e s d e n
 b i a z e l l e n a d l a s d f e s y n d i a s p r p r o n e y m p t o
 e d e s t r a m y d e l l a s a l d l a s e n t r a s q e m e l l a s e s t o m e
 z e n / n o p a g u e d e r e c h o d e l m o x a r i f a d g o e y a l
 d u a n a e y p o r t a d g o . y a l m y r a n t a d g o e y o t r o d f i
 p o r e l c u r r e n z e d l a s m a d a m o s d e z e s t a m a s a r a p r
 v o s e n l a d f i t h y n o p o r l a q u a l v o s m a d a m o s a
 t o d o s e a m d u n o d v o s c a d a a l q u a l d e t r a x i e
 z e n . y d e s t r e n e d e l a s d f e s y n d i a s . q u a l d e s t r a
 c o s a s d e s t o s m o s t h y n o s q e n q u a n d o m p m d
 v o l u n t a d f u e . l o s d e x e s e a n s m e n s d o r g a n
 l a s t u l a s o f e s q a d e t r a x i e r e l i b r e m e n t e d y n
 l e s l l e n a z a l m o x m a y o r m e n o r e y a d u a n a
 e y a l m y r a n t a d g o e y p o r t a d g o e y o t r o s d f o d a l
 p m o s . y d l a m a l a d l a p m e r a v e n a e q d f e s e r e
 d l a s t a l a s c o s a s q a d e t r a x i e r e d l a s d f e s y n
 d i a s m o s t r a n d o s e n r a s f i r m i d e d o n x p o n e l
 c o l o m m a d l m y r a n t d l a s d f e s y n d i a s e o l a p e r s o n a
 e t o m e r e p a t a e l l o s u p o d r z a l d a j a z d m e e j a z
 d m a s p o r m o s e p o r n p o s s o n t u d r s e m d r e
 e n n o m o b l e e s t o m e r e . e n l a s d f e s y n d i a s c o m o
 a l q u e l l a s c o s a s e o l a r g a r o n e n l a s d f e s y n d i a s
 p u e s t o s m o s t h y n o s a l a d e m o m o d e x e s l i b r e
 m e n t e l a r g a z e n q u a n t o n r o m d e v o l u n t a d
 f u e q u a l i s q u e r e c o s a s q p r e l l e n a z e d l a s

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said Indies for the provision and sustenance thereof and of the people who shall be therein, without demanding or leying upon them any greater or smaller export duties, customs, admiralty dues, road-toll or any other duties. This do and fulfil in this manner, upon seeing a certificate signed by the said Don Christopher Columbus, Admiral of the said Indies, or by some one having his authority, and by the person or persons who for us and for our chief accountants in our name shall be in the city of Cadiz to attend to the affairs of the said Indies. And if any persons shall unlade the said goods which shall come from the said Indies without showing the said letter of the said Admiral or of some one having his authority, and of the person or persons who for us and for our chief accountants shall be in the said Indies, that such goods were shipped therein for these our said kingdoms; or shall ship goods from these our kingdoms for the said Indies without taking the letter of the said Admiral or of some one having his authority, and of the person or persons who for us and for our said chief accountants shall be in the said city of Cadiz, that such goods are shipped and conveyed for the said Indies; they shall have forfeited and shall forfeit them; and by these presents we give power and authority to the person or persons who by us or by our said chief accountants are or shall be nominated for the aforesaid purpose in the said city of Cadiz, or to the person whom the said Admiral in like manner keeps or shall keep there, to seize such merchandise and other things which they shall have thus brought from the said Indies, or shall have shipped for them, without showing the said letters signed in the manner aforesaid, and to keep them warehoused until we order what in justice, and according to our will and pleasure, is to be done with them. And likewise we command that the said lieutenants and officers do take security that what shall thus be laden for transport to the said Indies shall be taken thereto and not to any other part; and that the officers who shall be in the said Indies do in like manner take security that what they shall thus ship in the said Indies shall be unladen in these our kingdoms and not in any other part, and they shall present themselves therewith in the said city of Cadiz before the officers who shall be there for us and for the said Admiral of the Indies, in order that no kind of fraud or deceit may intervene. And we command you our said justices so to perform and fulfil it; and what is contained in this our patent shall be done and fulfilled as long as it shall be our will and pleasure, as it is aforesaid. And to the end that what is above said may come to the notice of all men, and that no one may be able to pretend ignorance thereof, we command that this our patent be proclaimed in the squares, markets and other customary places of those said cities of

dichas Yndias para proveymiento e sostenimiento dellas e delas gentes que en ellas estovieren syn les demandar ni llevar derechos algunos de almojarifadgo mayor ni menor ni aduana nin almirantadgo ni portadgo, ni otros derechos algunos, lo qual hazed e cunplid asy mostrando vos carta firmada del dicho Don Christoval Colon Almirante delas dichas Yndias o de quien su poder oviere, e dela persona e personas que por nos e por nuestros contadores mayores en nuestro nonbre estovieren en la cibdat de Caliz para entender en las cosas delas dichas Yndias. E sy algunas personas descargaren las dichas cosas que vinieren delas dichas Yndias syn mostrar la dicha carta del dicho Almirante o de quien su poder oviere e dela persona o personas que por nos e por los nuestros contadores mayores estovieren en las dichas Yndias como aquellas cosas se cargaron en ellas para estos dichos nuestros reynos o cargaren destos nuestros reynos para las

dichas Yndias syn llevar carta del dicho Almirante o de quien su poder oviere e dela persona o personas que por nos e por los dichos nuestros contadores mayores estovieren en la dicha cibdad de Caliz como aquellas cosas se cargan e lievan para las dichas Yndias que las ayan perdido e pierdan, e por la presente damos poder e facultad ala persona o personas que por nos o por los dichos nuestros contadores mayores estan e estovieren nonbradas para lo suso dicho en la dicha cibdad de Caliz o ala persona que el dicho Almirante asy mismo alli tiene o toviere que les tomen las tales mercaderias e otras cosas que asy truxieren delas dichas Yndias o cargaren para ellas syn mostrar las dichas cartas firmadas en la manera que dicha es, e las tengan en deposito fasta que nos mandemos fazer dellas lo que fuere justicia e nuestra merced e voluntad sea. E otrosy mandamos que los dichos tenientes e oficiales tomen seguridad que lo que asy se cargare para llevar alas dichas Yndias se llevara aellas e non a otra parte alguna e los oficiales que estovieren en las dichas Yndias tomen asy mismo seguridad que lo que asy cargaren en las dichas Yndias se descargara en estos nuestros reynos e non en otra parte alguna, y se presentaran conello en la dicha cibdat de Caliz ante los oficiales que alli estovieren por nos e por el dicho Almirante delas Yndias por que no pueda yntervenir frabde ni cabtela alguna. E mandamos a vos las dichas nuestras justicias que asy lo fagays e cunplays e se faga e cunpla lo en esta nuestra carta contenido en quanto nuestra merced e voluntad fuere como dicho es. E por que lo suso dicho venga a notiçia de todos e dello non pueda ninguno pretender ynorançia mandamos que esta nuestra carta sea pregonada por las plaças e mercados e otros logares acostunbrados desas dichas cibdades de

Sevilla e Caliz e delos puertos desa comarca. E mandamos a los nuestros contadores mayores que tomen el traslado desta nuestra carta e lo pongan e asyenten en los nuestros libros e sobre escrivan esta carta oreginal en las espaldas e la tornen al dicho Don Christoval Colon, nuestro Almirante delas Yndias e que con los arrendamientos que hizieren de aqui adelante en quanto nuestra merced e voluntad fuere delos nuestros almoxarifadgos e alcavalas e portadgos e aduanas e otros nuestros derechos, pongan por salvado lo contenido en esta nuestra carta, e los unos ni los otros non fagades ni fagan ende al por alguna manera so pena dela nuestra merced e de diez mill maravedis para la nuestra camara a cada uno que lo contrario fiziere. E demas mandamos al ome que esta nuestra carta mostrare que vos enplaze que parescades ante nos en la nuestra corte do quier que nos seamos del dia que vos enplazare fasta quinze dias primeros siguientes sola dicha pena, sola qual mandamos a qual quier escrivano publico que para esto fuere llamado que de ende al que vos la mostrare testimonio signado con su signo por que nos sepamos en como se cunple nuestro mandado. Dada en la cibdad de Burgos,

seys dias del mes de mayo, año del nascimiento de nuestro Salvador Jesu Christo de mill e quatrocientos e noventa e siete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Yo Fernand Alvarez de Toledo Secretario del Rey e dela Reyna nuestros Señores, la fiz escrivir por su mandado, en la forma. Acordada, Rodricus Doctor. Registrada, Alonso Perez. Francisco Diaz Chanciller.

Corregidores, alcaldes, alguaziles, regidores, cavalleros, escuderos, oficiales e omes buenos delas çibdades de Sevilla e Caliz, e delas villas e logares delos puertos de su Arçobispado e Obispado, e arrendadores e recabdadores, almoxaryfes e portadgueros, aduaneros e dezmeros e las otras personas en esta carta del Rey e dela Reyna nuestros Señores desta parte escrita contenidas ved esta dicha carta de sus Altezas e cunplidla en todo e por todo segund e por la forma e manera que en ella se contiene e sus Altezas por ella lo mandan e sea entendido que todas las mercaderyas que fueren del Andaluzia o de otros quales quier puertos gozando de esa dicha franqueza para las dichas Yndias, han de dar seguridad que traberan testimonio e fe del dicho Almirante o de quien su poder oviere e dela persona que por sus Altezas o los dichos sus contadores mayores para ello ovieren señalado eso mesmo las liçençias e fees que se han de llevar alas Yndias o traber dellas delas cosas que se llevaren o truxieren han de ser firmadas del dicho Almirante o de quien su poder oviere e dela persona que sus Altezas e sus contadores mayores nonbraren, de anbos e no del uno syn el otro. Ansy mesmo, se entienda que por lo en esta dicha carta contenido non se ha de reçibir en cuenta maravedis ni otras cosas algunas a los arrendadores e recabdadores mayores e almoxarifes e otras personas que tienen o tovieren cargo de coger e recabdar las rentas a nos pertenesçientes en el dicho Arçobispado de Sevilla e Obispado de Caliz cste dicho año ni dende en adelante en ningund año quanto fuere la voluntad de sus Altezas que dure e se guarde lo en esta dicha su carta contenido. E como quiera que dize que esta dicha franqueza se ha de guardar desde este dicho presente año sea entendido que ha de ser guardada desde primero dya de cnero del año venidero de noventa e ocho años e dende en adelante segund dicho es e no antes. Mayordomo Juan Lopez, Fernand Gomes, Juan Hurtado Montoro, Luys Perez, Pedro de Arbolancha.

DON Fernando e Doña Ysabel por la gracia de Dios Rey e Reyna de Castilla, de Leon, de

Seville and Cadiz, and of the ports of that district. And we command our chief accountants to take the transcript of this our patent, and to place and record it in our books, and to endorse this original patent and return it to the said Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Indies, and that in the accounts they shall render from now henceforth, as long as it shall be our will and pleasure, of our import and export-duties, market-tolls, road-tolls, customs and other our dues, they shall enter as excepted whatever is contained in this our patent; and neither the one nor the other of you or them shall do contrary thereto in any manner, under pain of our displeasure and of ten thousand maravedis to our chamber to everyone who shall do the contrary. And further we command the man who shall show this our patent to cite you to appear before us in our court wheresoever we may be, within fifteen days next following the day of citation, under the said penalty, under which also we command any public scrivener who may be summoned for this purpose to deliver to the person exhibiting it a certificate thereof signed with his signature, whereby we may know how our command is fulfilled. Given in the city of Burgos, on the sixth day of the month of May in the year of the nativity of our Saviour Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. I, Ferdinand Alvarez of Toledo, Secretary of the King and of the Queen our Lords, caused it to be written by their command, in the form [requested]. Granted, Roderick Doctor. Registered, Alonso Perez. Francis Diaz, Chancellor.

Governors, alcaldes, bailiffs, magistrates, knights, esquires, officers and good men of the cities of Seville and Cadiz, and of the towns and places of the ports of their archbishopric and bishopric, and farmers, receivers, customs-officers, toll-collectors, custom-house officers, tithe-collectors and other persons mentioned in this patent of the King and Queen our Lords herein written: See this said patent of their Highnesses, and fulfil it in all and through all according to the form and manner therein contained. And their Highnesses command thereby, and let it be understood, that for all the merchandise which shall go from Andalusia or from any other ports enjoying this said exemption for the said Indies security shall be given to produce the certificate and attestation of the said Admiral, or of anyone who shall have his authority, and of the person whom their Highnesses or their said chief accountants shall have nominated thereto; and likewise the licences and certificates which have to be taken to the Indies or brought therefrom for the goods which shall be taken or brought, shall be signed by the said Admiral, or by anyone who may have his authority, and by the person whom their Highnesses and their chief accountants may nominate, by both, and not by one without the other. Likewise be it understood that for what is contained in this patent neither money nor anything else is to be taken into account against the farmers, chief receivers, customs-officers and other persons who have or shall have the charge of collecting and receiving the revenues belonging to us in the said archbishopric of Seville and bishopric of Cadiz, either in this said year or in any year from now henceforth, as long as it shall be the will of their Highnesses that what is contained in this their said patent should be in force and be observed. And although it says that this exemption is to be observed from this said present year, be it understood that it is to be observed from the first day of January of the coming year ninety-eight, and from that time forward, as it is aforesaid, and not before. Steward, John Lopez, Ferdinand Gomes, John Hurtado Montoro, Louis Perez, Peter de Arbolancha.

Don Ferdinand and Donna Isabella, by the grace of God King and Queen of Castile, Leon,

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Aragon, Sicily, Granada, Toledo, Valencia, Galicia, Majorca, Seville, Sardinia, Cordoba, Corsica, Murcia, Jaen, the Algarves, Algeiras, Gibraltar and the Canary Islands, Counts of Barcelona and Lords of Biscay and Molina, Dukes of Athens and Neopatria, Counts of Roussillon and Cerdagne, Marquises of Oristano and Goziano, To the members of our council, auditors of our chamber, alcaldes and bailiffs of our household, court and chancery, and to all councillors, justices, magistrates, knights, esquires, officers and good men of all the cities, towns and places of our kingdoms and dominions, as well royal as abbatial, and members of orders and of free-towns, and any other persons whomsoever, our vassals, subjects and denizens whom the contents of this our patent touches and concerns, and to each and every one of you to whom this our patent, or the transcript thereof signed by a public scribener, may be shown, health and grace. Know ye that we have commanded Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean, to return to the island of Hispaniola and to the other islands and mainland which are in the said Indies, and to attend to the conversion and settlement thereof, because thereby our Lord God is served, his holy faith increased, and our kingdoms extended; and for that purpose we have commanded certain vessels and caravels to be equipped, in which are going certain people paid for a certain time, and victuals and provisions for them. And forasmuch as those persons are not sufficient to make the said settlement, so as to perform God's service and ours, unless other persons go to dwell, live and serve there at their own expense, we, willing to provide therefor, to the end that as well the said conversion and settlement may be carried out, as that we may show clemency and pity towards our subjects and denizens, do command this our patent to be given to that effect, whereby, of our own motion and certain knowledge, we will and ordain that all and whatsoever persons, men and women, our subjects and denizens who may have committed, until the day of the publication of this our patent, any murders and blood-sheddings or any other crimes of whatsoever sort or kind they may be, except heresy, leze-majesty, perduelliones, treason, disloyalty, murder committed by fire or sword, uttering base coin, or sodomy, or shall have taken out of our kingdoms coin, or gold, or silver, or other things by us prohibited, and who shall go and serve in person in the island of Hispaniola, and serve therein at their own cost, and attend to those things which the said Admiral shall tell and command them on our behalf; those who have incurred the penalty of death, for two years, and those who have incurred any other lesser penalty than death, even though it may be the loss of a limb, for one year; may be pardoned for any crimes and misdeeds of whatsoever sort, kind and enormity which they may have done and committed until the day of the publication of this our patent, with the exception of the cases above-mentioned, upon being presented before the said Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean, in the presence of a public scribener, from the day of the date of this our patent until the end of the month of September next following, in order that they may go with the said Admiral to the said island of Hispaniola, and to the other islands and mainland of the said Indies, and serve therein for the whole of the said term, in whatever the said Admiral shall command them for our service as aforesaid. And after they have thus been presented, they shall go to the said islands and mainland,

Aragon, de Seçilia, de Granada, de Toledo, de Valencia, de Gallizia, de Mallorcias, de Sevilla, de Çerdena, de Cordova, de Corçega, de Murcia, de Jaben, delos Algarves, de Algezira, de Gibraltar e delas yslas de Canaria, Condes de Barcelona e Señores de Viscaya e de Molyna, Duques de Atenas e de Neopatria, Condes de Rusellon e de Çerdania, Marqueses de Orystan e de Goçiano: alos del nuestro Consejo e oydores dela nuestra abdiencia, alcaldes e alguaziles dela nuestra casa e corte e chançilleria e a todos los conçejos e justicias, regidores, cavalleros, escuderos, oficiales e omes buenos de todas las cibdades e villas e logares delos nuestros reynos e señorios asy realengos como abadenegos e ordenes e bebetrias e otras quales quier personas nuestros vasallos, subditos e naturales a quien toca e atañe lo enesta nuestra carta contenido, e a cada uno e qual quier de vos a quien esta nuestra carta fuere mostrada o el traslado della signado de escrivano publico, salud e gracia. Sepades que nos avemos mandado a Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano que buelva ala ysla Española e alas otras

yslas e tierra firme que son en las dichas Yndias e entienda en la conversion e poblacion dellas, porque desto Dios nuestro Señor es servido e su santa fe acrecentada e nuestros reynos ensanchados, e para ello avemos mandado armar ciertos navios e caravelas en que va çierta gente pagada por çierto tienpo e bastimentos e mantenimientos para ella, e por quanto aquello no puede abastar para que se haga la dicha poblacion como cunple a servicio de Dios e nuestro, sy no van otras gentes que en ellas esten e bivan e syrvan a sus costas, e nos queriendo proveer sobre ello, asy por lo que cunple ala dicha conversyon e poblacion como por usar de clemencia e piedad con nuestros subditos e naturales, mandamos dar esta nuestra carta en la dicha razon, por la qual de nuestro propio motuo e çierta çiençia queremos e bordenamos que todas e quales quier personas varones e mugeres nuestros subditos e naturales que ovieren cometido fasta el dia dela publicacion desta nuestra carta, quales quier muertes e feridas o otros quales quier delitos de qual quier natura e calidad que sean, eçebto la eregia o lege magestatis o perduelliones o traycion o aleveo muerte segura o fecha con fuego o con saeta o crymen de falsa moneda o de sodomia o ovieren sacado moneda o oro o plata o otras cosas por nos vedadas fuera de nuestros reynos, que fueren a servir en persona ala ysla Española e syrvieren en ella a sus propias costas e syrvieren en las cosas que el dicho Almirante les dixere e mandare de nuestra parte, los que mereçieren pena de muerte por doss años e los que mereçieren otra pena menor que non sea muerte aunque sea perdimiento de miembro por un año Sean perdonados de quales quier crimines e delitos de qual quier natura e calidad e gravedad que sean que ovieren fecho e cometido fasta el dia dela publicacion de esta nuestra carta, eçebto los casos suso dichos, presentados ante el dicho Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano ante escrivano publico desde oy dela data desta nuestra carta fasta en fin del mes de setiembre primero que viene, para que puedan yr con el dicho Almirante ala dicha ysla Española e alas otras yslas e tierra firme delas dichas Yndias, e servir en ellas por todo el dicho tienpo, en lo que el dicho Almirante les mandare, cunplideras a nuestro servicio como dicho es. E asy presentados fueren alas dichas yslas e tierra firme

e estovieren enel dicho servicio continua mente por todo el dicho tienpo trayendo carta patente firmada del dicho Almirante e signada de escrivano publico, en que den fe como servieron los tales delinquentes en las dichas yslas, o en qualquier dellas por todo el dicho tienpo sean perdonados, e por la presente de nuestro propio motuo e cierta sciencia los perdonamos de todos los dichos delitos que asy ovieren fecho e cometido fasta el dia dela publicacion de esta dicha nuestra carta, como dicho es, e que dende en adelante non puedan ser acusados por los dichos delitos ni por ninguno dellos, ni se proceda, ni pueda ser procedido contra ellos ni contra sus bienes por nuestras justicias a crimen ni a pena alguna çivil nin criminal a pedimiento de partes, ni de su oficio ni de otra manera alguna, ni puedan ser executadas enellos ni en sus bienes las sentencias que contra ellos son o fueren dadas las quales nos por esta nuestra carta revocamos e damos por ningunas e de nin-

gund efecto e valor, cumplido el dicho servicio, e mandamos al dicho Almirante delas Yndias, e a otras quales quier personas que por nos estovieren en las dichas Yndias que dexe libre mente venir alos que asy ovieren servido el tienpo que son obligados de servir segund el tenor desta nuestra carta, e que no los detengan en manera alguna. E por esta nuestra carta mandamos alos del nuestro consejo e oydores dela nuestra abdiencia, alcaldes dela nuestra corte e chancilleria, e a todos los corregidores e otras justicias quales quier de todas las çibdades e villas e logares delos nuestros reynos e señorios que esta nuestra carta de perdon e remision, e lo enella contenido e cada una cosa e parte dello guarden e cunplan e fagan guardar e conplir ei todo e por todo segun que enella se contiene, e en guardandola e cunpliendola, no procedan contra los tales que asy ovieren servido en las dichas Yndias por ningun delito que ovieren fecho ni cometido, e çebto en las cosas suso dichas a pedimiento de parte ni de su oficio ni de otra manera alguna ni las executen en sus personas ni bienes por razon delos tales delitos, e sy algunos procesos contra ellos estan fechos o sentencias dadas lo revoquen o den por ningunas, que nos por la presente dela dicha nuestra cierta sciencia desde agora para estonçes lo revoca-

and shall remain in the said service continually for the whole of the said term, taking a letter patent signed by the said Admiral and attested by a public scribener, certifying that such delinquents, having served in the said islands, or in any one of them, for the whole of the said term, may be pardoned; and by these presents, of our own motion and certain knowledge, we pardon them for all the said crimes which they have thus done and committed until the day of the publication of this our said patent, as it is aforesaid; and from thenceforward they shall not be liable to be arraigned for the said crimes, nor for any one of them, nor shall proceedings be taken, nor are they liable to proceedings, against them, or against their property, by our justices, for crime or for any civil or criminal penalty, either at the instance of parties or in virtue of their (the justices') office, or in any other manner; neither can there be execution against them, or against their goods, of the judgments which are or shall be delibered against them, and which we, by this our patent, reboke and declare to be void and of no effect and validity after the said service has been completed. And we command the said Admiral of the Indies, and any other persons who shall represent us in the said Indies, to allow the free departure of those who shall have thus served the term which they are bound to serve, according to the tenor of this our patent, and not to detain them in any manner. And, by this our patent, we command the members of our council, auditors of our chamber, alcaldes of our court and chancery, and all governors and other justices whomsoever of all the cities, towns and places of our kingdoms and dominions to observe and fulfil, and to cause to be observed and fulfilled, this our patent of pardon and remission, and what is contained therein, and each clause and part thereof, in all and through all, according to what is contained therein; and in observing and fulfilling it they shall not proceed against such persons as shall have thus served in the said Indies for any crime which they may have done or committed, excepting in the cases aforesaid, either at the instance of parties or in virtue of their office, or in any other manner, nor grant execution against their persons or goods by reason of such crimes; and if any proceedings are already taken or judgments given against them, they shall reboke and hold them as void, for we by these presents of our said certain knowledge do from now henceforth reboke,

Al. e. f. d. u. e. e. u. d. i. h. o. s. e. r. m. a. n. t. i. m. e. n. t. e. p. o. r. t. o. d.
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Confernao e doña

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quash, annul and hold them for naught, and we restore the said delinquents to their good fame and to the condition and state in which they were before they had done and committed the said crimes. And to the end that the aforesaid may be commonly known and that no one may pretend ignorance thereof, we command that it be publicly proclaimed in the squares, markets and other customary places, and neither the one nor the other of you or them shall do contrary hereto in any manner, under pain of our displeasure and of ten thousand maravedis to our chamber, to everyone who shall do the contrary. And further we command the man who shall show this our patent to cite you to appear before us in our court, wheresoever we may be, within fifteen days next following the day of citation, under the said penalty; under which also we command any public scrivener who may be summoned for this purpose to give to the man who shall show it to you a certificate hereof signed with his signature, so that we may know how our command is fulfilled. Given in the town of Medina del Campo, on the twenty-second day of the month of June, in the year of the nativity of our Saviour Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. I, Ferdinand Albares of Toledo, Secretary of the King and of the Queen our Lords, caused it to be written by their command. Granted, Roderick Doctor. Registered, Doctor. Francis Diaz, Chancellor.

Don Ferdinand and Donna Isabella,

by the grace of God King and Queen of Castile, Leon, Aragon, Sicily, Granada, Toledo, Valencia, Galicia, Majorca, Seville, Sardinia, Cordova, Corsica, Murcia, Jaen, the Algarves, Algeciras, Gibraltar and the Canary Islands, Count and Countess of Barcelona and Lords of Biscay and Molina, Dukes of Athens and Neopatria, Counts of Roussillon and Cerdagne, Marquises of Oristano and Goziano, To all the governors, assistants, alcaldes, bailiffs and other justices whomsoever of all the cities, towns and places of our kingdoms and dominions to whom this our patent may be shown, or the transcript hereof signed by a public scrivener, health and grace. Know ye that we

cunple nuestro mandado. Dada en la villa de Medina del Campo a veynte e dos dias del mes de Junio, año del nascimiento de nuestro Salvador Jesu Christo de mill e quatroçientos e noventa e siete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Yo Fernand Alvares de Toledo Secretario del Rey e dela Reyna nuestros Señores la fiz escrivir por su mandado. Acordada, Rodricus Doctor. Registrada Doctor. Francisco Diaz Chanciller.

DON Fernando e Doña Ysabel por la gracia de Dios Rey e Reyna de Castilla, de Leon, de Aragon, de Seçilia, de Granada, de Toledo, de Valençia, de Gallizia, de Mallorcas, de Sevilla, de Çerdeña, de Cordova, de Corçega, de Murçia, de Jaben, delos Algarves, de Algesira, de Gibraltar e delas yslas de Canaria, Conde e Condesa de Barçelona e Señores de Vizcaya e de Molina, Duques de Atenas e de Neopatria, Condes de Rosellon e de Çerdania, Marqueses de Oristan e de Goçiano: A todos los coregidores, asystentes, alcaldes, alguasiles e otras justiçias quales quier de todas las çibdades e villas e logares delos nuestros reynos e señorios a quien esta nuestra carta fuere mostrada o su trespado sygnado de escrivano publico, salud e gracia. Sepades que nos

mos, casamos e anulamos e damos por ningunos e restituymos alos dichos delinquentes en su buena fama e enel punto e estado en que estevan antes que oviesen fecho e cometido los dichos delitos. E por que lo susodicho sea notorio eninguno dello pueda pretender ynorançia mandamos que sea pregonado publica mente por las plaças e mercados e otros logares acostunbrados, e los unos ni los otros non fagades ni fagan ende al por alguna manera so pena dela nuestra merçed e de diez mill maravedis para la nuestra camara a cada uno que lo contrario hiziere. E de mas mandamos al ome que esta nuestra carta mostrare que vos enplase que parezcade ante nos enla nuestra corte do quier que nos seamos del dia que vos enplazare fasta quinze dias primeros syguientes so la dicha pena, so la qual mandamos a qual quier escrivano publico que para esto fuere llamado que de ende al que vos la mostrare testimonio signado con su signo por que nos sepamos en como se

avemos mandado a Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante delas Yndias del mar oceano, que buelva ala ysla Española e alas otras yslas e tierra firme que es en las dichas Yndias, a entender en la poblacion dellas, e para ello nos le mandamos dar ciertas naos e caravelas e que vaya cierta gente pagada por cierto tienpo, e bastimentos e mantenimientos para ella. E porque aquella non puede bastar para que se haga la dicha poblacion como cunple a servicio de Dios e nuestro sy no van otras gentes que en ellas esten e bivan e sirvan a sus costas, acordamos de mandar dar esta nuestra carta para vos e para cada uno de vos en la dicha rason por que vos mandamos que cada e quando alguna o algunas personas, asy varones como mugeres, de nuestros reynos, ovieren cometido e cometieren qual quier delito o delitos por que merecan o devan ser desterrados segund derecho e leyes de nuestros reynos para alguna ysla e para labrar o servir en los metales, que los desterreys que vayan a estar e servir en la dicha ysla Española, en las cosas que el dicho nuestro Almirante delas Yndias les dixere e mandare por el tienpo que avian de estar en la dicha ysla e lavor de metales, e asy mismo todas las otras personas que fueren culpantes en delitos que non merecan pena de muerte, seyendo tales los delitos que justa mente seles pueda dar destierro para las dichas Yndias, segund la calidad delos delitos, los condeneyns e desterreys para la dicha ysla Española, para que esten alli e fagan lo que por el dicho Almirante les fuere mandado por el tienpo que a vos otros pareciere. E alos que fasta aqui teneyns condenados e condenades de aqui adelante servyr alas dichas yslas e los tovierdes presos, los enbieys presos a buen recabdo a una delas nuestras carçeles delas nuestras abdiencias de Valladolid o Çibdat Real o ala carçel real de Sevilla, e los entreguen los que los llevaren alas dichas chançillerias alos nuestros alcaldes dellas, e los que se llevaren ala carçel de Sevilla se entreguen al nuestro asyistente, a costa delos tales condenados sy tovierden bienes, e sy bienes non tovierden se paguen a costa delos maravedis delas penas de nuestra camara. E mandamos alas dichas nuestras justicias que asy lo fagan e cunplan segun de suso se contiene, e alos conçejos de todas las çibdades e villas e logares de nuestros reynos, que les den para ello todo el favor e ayuda que menester ovieren. E sy otras algunas personas ovieren cometido e cometieren

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Al ferez mayor de la ystru de la abad de ompl
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crimes for which they ought to be banished from these our said kingdoms, you shall banish them to the said island in the following manner. Those who are condemned to perpetual banishment from these our said kingdoms you shall banish to the said island for ten years, and those who are condemned to banishment for a certain term out of our said kingdoms are to be banished to the said island for one half of the said term during which they were to remain out of these our kingdoms. And neither the one nor the other of you or them shall do contrary hereto in any manner, under pain of our displeasure and of ten thousand maravedis to our chamber to everyone who shall do the contrary. And further we command the man who shall show this our patent to cite you to appear before us in our court, wherever we may be, within fifteen days next following the day of citation, under the said penalty, under which we command any public scrivener who may be summoned for the purpose to give to the man who may exhibit it to you a certificate hereof signed with his signature, so that we may know how our command is fulfilled. Given in the town of Medina del Campo, on the twenty-second day of the month of June, in the year of the nativity of our Saviour Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. I, Ferdinand Alvares of Toledo, Secretary of the King and of the Queen our Lords, caused it to be written by their command. Don Alvaro. Granted, Roderick Doctor. Registered, Doctor. Francis Diaz, Chancellor.

delitos porque devan ser desterrados fuera destos dichos nuestros reynos, los desterreys para la dicha ysla en la manera siguiente. Los que ovieren de ser desterrados perpetua mente delos dichos nuestros reynos los desterreys para la dicha ysla por diez años, e los que ovieren de ser desterrados por cierto tienpo fuera delos dichos nuestros reynos que sean desterrados para la dicha ysla por la mitad del dicho tienpo que avyan de ser fuera destos nuestros reynos. E los unos ni los otros non fagades ni fagan ende al por alguna manera so pena dela nuestra merced e de diez mill maravedis para la nuestra camara a cada uno que lo contrario hiziere. E demas mandamos al ome que esta nuestra carta mostrare que vosenplaze que parezcade ante nos en la nuestra corte do quier que nos seamos del dia que vos enplazare fasta quinze dias primeros siguientes sola dicha pena, sola qual mandamos a qual quier escrivano publico que para esto fuere llamado que de ende

The King and the Queen.

Count de Cifuentes, our chief Standard-Bearer and Assistant of the city of Seville: We are sending to command the justices of our kingdoms that all persons whom they shall have to banish and may banish to islands or beyond our kingdoms are to be banished by them to the island of Hispaniola and to be sent to this our prison at Seville: Wherefore

al que vos la mostrare testimonio signado con su signo por que nos sepamos en como se cumple nuestro mandado. Dada en la villa de Medina del campo, a veynte e doss dias del mes de Junio año del nascimiento de nuestro Salvador Jesu Christo de mill e quatrocientos e noventa e siete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Yo Fernand Alvares de Toledo, Secretario del Rey e dela Reyna nuestros Señores la fiz escrivir por su mandado. Don Alvaro. Acordada Rodricus Doctor. Registrada Doctor. Francisco Diaz Chanciller.

El Rey e la Reyna.

CONDE de Cifuentes nuestro Alferes mayor e asystente dela çibdat de Sevilla nos enbiamos mandar alas justicias de nuestros reynos que todas las personas que ovieren de desterrar e desterraren para yslas o para fuera delos dichos nuestros reynos los destierren para la ysla Española e que los enbien a esa nuestra carçel de Sevilla por

ende nos vos mandamos que cada e quando vos fueren enbyados los tales condenados por los presidentes e oydores e alcaldes delas nuestras chancillerias de Valladolid o Çibdad Real e por quales quier otros corregidores e justicias delos dichos nuestros reynos que los reçibays e los tengays presos a buen recabdo fasta que los entregueys al nuestro Almirante delas Yndias del mar oceano o en su absençia ala persona que por nos toviere cargo del proveymiento delas cosas delas dichas Yndias e ala persona que para ello estoviere puesta por el dicho Almirante, los quales vos requeriran por ellos al tienpo que tovieren prestos los navios para partir e fazer su viaje alas dichas Yndias, al qual dicho tienpo vos gelos dad e entregad dentro enlos dichos navios enla dicha çibdad de Sevilla o enla çibdad de Caliz donde quier que los dichos navios estovieren prestos para partir presos e a buen recabdo por ante escrivano e testigos reçibiendo conosçimiento e seguridad delos

maestres delos tales navios que los llevaran asy presos e a buen recabdo fasta los entregar al dicho Almirante o ala persona que el nonbrare para lo reçibir dentro enla dicha ysla Española e que traeran fee e testimonio de como los llevo e entrego e quedaron enla dicha ysla. E la costa que se biziere fasta los entregar enlos dichos navios fazed cunplir e pagar delos bienes delos tales condenados, e sy non tovieren bienes fazed lo cunplir e pagar delos maravedis delas penas de nuestra camara, e non fagades ende al. Fecha enla villa de Medina del Campo, a veynte e doss dias del mes de junio de noventa e syete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Fernand Alvares.

El Rey e la Reyna.

Para la poblaçion delas yslas e tierra firme descubiertas enel mar oceano e para llevar mantenimiento alas personas que alla estan e ovieren de estar, e para descobrir otras tierras o traber de alla quales quier mercaderias que se fallaren sera menester fleytar algunas naos o caravelas e

we command you that whensoever such persons, after being condemned by the presidents, auditors and alcaldes of our chanceries of Valladolid or Ciudad Real, and by any other governors and justices of our said kingdoms, shall be sent to you, you are to receive them and keep them prisoners in safe custody until you deliver them to our Admiral of the Indies of the Ocean, or, in his absence, to the person who on our behalf shall have the charge of attending to the affairs of the said Indies, and to the person who shall be appointed for that purpose by the said Admiral; and they will demand them from you when the vessels are ready to set out on their voyage to the said Indies, at which said time you are to send and deliver them over on board the said vessels in the said city of Seville or in the city of Cadiz, whereever the said vessels shall be waiting to depart, as prisoners in safe custody, in the presence of a scrivener and witnesses, receiving an acknowledgment and security from the masters of such vessels that they will convey them as prisoners in safe custody until they deliver them to the said Admiral or to the person whom he may appoint to receive them in the said island of Hispaniola, and that they will bring back a certificate and attestation that they have been conveyed and delivered, and that they remained in the said island. And the expense which shall be incurred until they are delivered on board the said vessels you are to cause to be provided and paid out of the goods of such condemned persons, and, if they possess no goods, cause it to be provided and paid out of the money arising from the fines of our chamber; and you shall not do contrary hereto. Done in the town of Medina del Campo, on the twenty-second day of the month of June in the year ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and Queen, Ferdinand Alvares.

The King and the Queen.

For the settlement of the islands and mainland discovered in the Ocean, and for conveying provisions to the persons who are and shall be there, and for discovering other lands or bringing from thence whatever merchandises shall be found, it will be necessary to freight some ships or caravels and

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other vessels; and seeing that the masters and owners thereof might peradventure refuse to freight them, or might demand higher freights than they usually receive and ought justly to have, which would be to our disservice and to the detriment and hindrance of the voyages which are to be made to the said Indies; therefore we charge and command you that when our Admiral of the Indies shall not find the vessels he requires, or if on finding them they (the owners) are unwilling to go with him, and he shall demand from you any vessels, caravels and other foists for such voyages, you are to inspect the vessels and foists which he may require, and arrange with the owners thereof to freight them to him at reasonable prices, according as it may seem to you that they ought justly to freight them to him; and you are to take measures that the owners and masters thereof do go with the said vessels, as far as possible without grievance and prejudice to the parties, for by these presents we give you full power to that effect. Done in the town of Medina del Campo, on the twenty-second day of the month of June, in the year one thousand four hundred and ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and Queen, Ferdinand Alvares.

The King and the Queen.

Alcaldes of exportation and contraband,

city-officers, toll-collectors and custodians of the Archbishopric of Seville and Bishopric of Cadiz, and each of you: We command you that from the grain which we hold in this said archbishopric, of the thirds belonging to us, you permit and allow Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Indies, or the person whom he shall send with a letter subscribed with his name, to take freely and lade on board ship five hundred and fifty cahices of wheat and fifty cahices of barley, for the victualling and provision of the islands of the Indies. And you are to allow him to take the said grain within five months next ensuing, reckoning from the day of the making of this our bill, in as many journeys as he may please within the said term, provided that at each journey he is to register and shall register, in the presence of an alcalde and two others of you and a scribe, on the dorse of this our grant, how much he takes, so that he may not take more than the said five hundred and fifty cahices of wheat and fifty cahices of barley; and for the said grain we command you not to demand or levy any export-dues or other dues, since it is our will and pleasure that

otros navios, e por que los maestros e dueños dellos por aventura se escusarian delos fleytar o demandaren mayores fletes delos que acostunbran llevar e deven aver justa mente, lo qual seria en deservicio nuestro e daño e estorvo delos viajes que se han de fazer alas dichas Yndias, por ende nos vos encargamos e mandamos que quando el nuestro Almirante delas Yndias no fallare los navios que oviere menester o hallando los non quisieren yr conel e vos demandare quales quier navios e caravelas e otras fustas para los tales viajes que vos veades los navios e fustas que oviere menester e dedes forma conlos dueños dellos que gelos fleyten a precios razonables, segund a vos pareciere que justa mente gelos deven fleytar, e tengays manera que los dueños e maestros dellos vayan conlos dichos navios, lo mas syn agravio e perjuizio delas partes que ser pueda que por la presente vos damos para ello poder cumplido. Fecha enla villa de Medina del Campo a veynte e dos dias del mes de

Junio de mill e quatroçientos e noventa e syete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Fernand Alvares.

El Rey e la Reyna.

Alcaldes de sacas e cosas vedadas, dezmeros e portadgueros e guardas del Arçobispado de Sevilla e obispado de Cadiz, e a cada uno de vos, nos vos mandamos que del pan que nos tenemos en ese dicho arçobispado, delas tercias a nos pertenecientes dexedes e consentades libre mente sacar e cargar por la mar a Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante delas Yndias o ala persona que enel enviare con su carta firmada de su nonbre, quinientos e çinquenta cabizes de trigo e çinquenta cabizes de çevada para bastimento e proveymiento delas yslas delas Yndias, el qual dicho pan le dexad sacar dentro de çinco meses primeros siguientes contando desde oy dia dela fecha desta nuestra çedula, en quantos caminos el quisyere e dentro del dicho termino, tanto que en cada camino aya de registrar e registre por ante un alcalde e dos de vos otros e un escrivano enlas espaldas desta nuestra çedula lo que sacare, por que non pueda sacar mas delos dichos quinientos e çinquenta cabizes de trigo e çinquenta cabizes de çevada, del qual dicho pan vos mandamos que non le demandedes ni llevedes derechos algunos de saca ni otros derechos algunos, por quanto nuestra merçed e voluntad es que

los non pague, por que el dicho pan es nuestro, e lo mandamos llevar para cosas de nuestro servicio, lo qual vos mandamos que lo fagades e cunplades asy, syn le poner embargo ni contrario alguno. E non fagades ende al so pena dela nuestra merced e de dies mill maravedis para la nuestra camara e fisco a cada uno que lo contrario hiziere. Fecha en la villa de Medina del Campo a veynte e doss dias del mes de junio de noventa e syete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Fernand Alvares. Acordada.

El Rey e la Reyna.

FRANCISCO de Soria logar teniente de nuestro Almirante mayor de Castilla, nos vos mandamos que dedes e fagades dar a Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano un traslado abtorizado en manera que faga fe de qualesquier cartas de merced e previllejos e confirmaciones que el dicho Almirante mayor de Castilla tiene del dicho cargo e oficio de Almirante, por donde el e otros por el lleven e se cojan los derechos e otras cosas a el pertenecientes conel dicho cargo, por que avemos fecho merced al dicho Don Christoval Colon que aya e goze delas mercedes e honrras e prerrogativas e libertades e derechos e salarios enel almirantazgo delas Yndias que ha e tiene e goza el dicho nuestro Almirante mayor enel almirantazgo de Castilla, lo qual based e conplid luego como fuerdes requerido con esta nuestra carta, syn que enello pongays escusa ni dilacion alguna, e sy asy non lo hizierdes e cunplierdes, mandamos al nuestro asystente e a otras justicias dela cibdad de Sevilla que vos compelan e apremien alo asy hazer e cunplir. E non fagades ni fagan ende al. Fecha en la cibdad de Burgos a veynte e tress dias del mes de abril de noventa e syete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Fernand Alvares. Acordada.

El Rey e la Reyna.

§ POR la presente damos licencia e facultad a vos Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano para que podays tomar e tomeys a sueldo

he is not to pay them; for the said grain is ours, and we are commanding it to be taken for our service; and we command you so to perform and fulfil it, without placing any obstacle or impediment in his way. And you shall not act contrary hereto under pain of our displeasure and of ten thousand maravedis to our chamber and treasury to each person who shall do the contrary. Done in the town of Medina del Campo, on the twenty-second day of the month of June, in the year ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen, Ferdinand Alvares. Granted.

The King and the Queen.

Francis de Soria, Lieutenant of our
High Admiral of Castile: We command you to give and cause to be given to Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean, a transcript, authenticated so as to obtain credence, of whatever patents of labour and privileges and confirmations the said High Admiral of Castile holds of the said charge and office of Admiral, whereby he, and others on his behalf, may levy and collect the dues and other things pertaining to him in the said charge; for we have granted to the said Don Christopher Columbus that he may have and enjoy in the Admiralty of the Indies the labours, honours, prerogatives, liberties, dues and salaries which our said High Admiral has, holds and enjoys in the Admiralty of Castile. And this do and fulfil as soon as you shall be required under this our letter, without interposing any excuse or delay; and should you not so do and fulfil it, we command our Assistant and other justices of the city of Seville to constrain and force you so to do and fulfil it. And neither you nor they shall do contrary hereto. Done in the city of Burgos, on the twenty-third day of the month of April, in the year ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen, Ferdinand Alvares. Granted.

The King and the Queen.

By these presents we give licence and
authority to you Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean, that you may be able to take and do take into pay

los derechos e otras cosas a el pertenecientes conel dicho cargo, por que avemos fecho merced al dicho Don Christoval Colon que aya e goze delas mercedes e honrras e prerrogativas e libertades e derechos e salarios enel almirantazgo delas Yndias que ha e tiene e goza el dicho nuestro Almirante mayor enel almirantazgo de Castilla, lo qual based e conplid luego como fuerdes requerido con esta nuestra carta, syn que enello pongays escusa ni dilacion alguna, e sy asy non lo hizierdes e cunplierdes, mandamos al nuestro asystente e a otras justicias dela cibdad de Sevilla que vos compelan e apremien alo asy hazer e cunplir. E non fagades ni fagan ende al. Fecha en la cibdad de Burgos a veynte e tress dias del mes de abril de noventa e syete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Fernand Alvares. Acordada.

as many as three hundred and thirty persons, to the end that they reside in the Indies, of the occupations and in the manner following: forty esquires, one hundred foot-soldiers and pioneers, thirty sailors, thirty midshipmen, twenty workers in gold, fifty labourers, ten gardeners, twenty officers of all classes and thirty women, making in all the said three hundred and thirty persons, to whom you are to cause wages to be paid as it is contained in the instruction which we do command to be given therein; and should it be needful to alter any of the said occupations or persons, by increasing the number of some and by diminishing others, you may do so, as you shall see and perceive to be best for our service; provided that altogether they do not exceed in all the said three hundred and thirty persons. Done in the city of Burgos, on the twenty-third day of the month of April, in the year one thousand four hundred and ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen. Ferdinand Albares. Granted.

fasta en numero de trezientas e treynta personas para que esten en las Yndias, delos oficios e forma siguiente, quarenta escauderos, eient peones de guerra e de trabajo, treynta marineros, treynta grumetes, veynte labradores de oro, cinquenta labradores, diez ortolanos, veynte oficiales de todos oficios, treynta mugeres, que son todas las diebas tresientas e treynta personas, las quales fagays pagar sueldo segund se contiene en la ynstrucion que cerca dello mandamos dar, e sy alguno delos diebos oficios o gente fuere necesario mudarse o ereger en el numero delos unos abaxando en los otros, lo podays hazer, segund vierdes e entendierdes ser eunplidero a nuestro servicio e con tanto que nos [non] sean mas por todos delas diebas tresientas e treynta personas. Feeha en la cibdat de Burgos, a veynte e tres dias del mes de abril de mill e quatroçientos e noventa e syete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Fernand Alvares. Aeordada.

The King and the Queen.

Our Treasurer of the property and effects appertaining to us from the islands and mainland discovered and placed under our dominion in the Ocean in the region of the Indies: We command you that from the gold, merchandise and other things which shall be obtained in the said Indies you do give and pay to the persons who may be entitled to receive them from us, any salary, wages and other moneys which they ought to have for freights of ships and mariners, and for other things which may be needful for the housing and settling of the people residing and going to reside in the said Indies, for wages and salary, and for whatever may be payable and due to the people who have served us in time past, according to the lists, bills and warrants which shall be delivered to you, signed with the names of Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral, Viceroy and Governor of the said Indies, or of his lieutenant, and of the officers of our chief accountants who are and shall be in the said Indies; by the which receipts and lists, and by acquittances of the parties, we command that there be

El Rey e la Reyna.

§ *NUESTRO* tesorero dela hacienda e cosas a nos pertençientes delas yslas e tierra firme descubiertas e puestas so nuestro señorio en el mar oceano en la parte delas Yndias, nos vos mandamos que del oro e mereaderias e otras cosas que se ovieren en las diebas Yndias dedes e paguedes alas personas que ovieren de aver de nos qual quier salario e sueldo e otros maravedis que ayan de aver por fletes de navios e maryneros e para las otras cosas que sean necesarias para la abitacion e poblacion dela gente que esta e oviere de yr alas diebas Yndias por sueldo e salario e la gente que nos oviere servido el tienpo pasado lo que asy oviere de aver e les fuere devido segund se vos diere por nominas e cedulas e libramientos firmadas de sus nonbres de Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante, Viso Rey e Governador delas diebas Yndias o su lugar teniente, y los oficiales de nuestros Contadores mayores que en las dichas Yndias estan e estovieren, con los quales reeabdos e nominas e con cartas de pago delas partes mandamos que vos

seun recibidos en cuenta los dichos maravedis que asy libraren el dicho Almirante e oficiales, e diendes e pagades como dicho es, e non fagades ende al. Fecha en la cibdat de Burgos, a veynte e tres dias del mes de abril de mill e quatroçientos e noventa e syete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Fernand Alvares. Acordada.

El Rey e la Reyna.

§ NUESTROS Contadores mayores e vuestros logar tenientes e oficiales, Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano nos hizo relacion que el ha prestado y presta a algunas delas personas que estan en las Yndias algunas quantias de maravedis las quales diz que le han de ser pagadas del sueldo e mantenimiento que han de aver de nos las dichas personas, nos suplico vos mandasemos que gelas librasedes en los maravedis que las tales personas ovieren de aver de nos. Porende nos vos mandamos que mostrando vos el dicho Almirante o quien su poder

oviene en forma bastante de derecho, como los tales maravedis le son devidos por las tales personas, gelos libreys enel nuestro tesorero o en su logar teniente delas dichas Yndias para que gelos paguen delo que ovieren de dar e pagar alas tales personas que asy los devieren al dicho Almirante. Fecha en Burgos a nueve dias de mayo de noventa e syete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Fernand Alvares. Acordada.

El Rey e la Reyna.

§ POR la presente damos liçençia e facultad a vos Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano para que sy vierdes que conviene a nuestro serviçio que se tome a sueldo mas numero de personas delas que agora mandamos yr alas Yndias a estar enellas, las podays tomar e tener fasta llegar a numero de quinientas

credited to you in account the said moneys for which the said Admiral and officers shall thus give warrants, and which you shall give and pay as aforesaid; and you shall not do contrary hereto. Done in the city of Burgos, on the twenty-third day of the month of April in the year one thousand four hundred and ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen, Ferdinand Alvares. Granted.

The King and the Queen.

To you our Chief Accountants and your lieutenants and officers. Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean, has reported to us that he has lent and is lending to some of the persons who are in the Indies certain sums of money, which he states are to be repaid to him from the pay and provisions which the said persons are to receive from us, and has supplicated us to command you to issue a warrant to him upon the moneys which such persons are to receive from us. Wherefore we command you that upon the said Admiral, or anyone holding his authority in due legal form, showing you that such moneys are due to him by such persons, you shall grant him a warrant on our Treasurer, or on his lieutenant in the said Indies, to pay the same to him from what they may have to give and pay to such persons who may be thus indebted to the said Admiral. Done in Burgos, on the ninth day of May in the year ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen, Ferdinand Alvares. Granted.

The King and the Queen.

By these presents we give licence and authority to you, Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean, that if you shall perceive it to be for our service to take into pay a larger number of persons than those whom we now command to go to the Indies and reside therein, you may take and retain them until they reach the number of five hundred

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persons in all, for such time and in such manner as you may think fit; provided that the pay and maintenance to be received by such persons as you may so increase, shall be paid to them from any merchandise and other things of value which may be obtained in the said Indies, without our commanding the same to be provided from other sources. Done in the city of Burgos, on the twenty-second day of the month of April in the year one thousand four hundred and ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen. Ferdinand Alvares. Granted.

Don Ferdinand and Donna Isabella,

by the grace of God King and Queen of Castile, Leon, Aragon, Sicily, Granada, Toledo, Valencia, Galicia, Majorca, Seville, Sardinia, Cordoba, Corsica, Murcia, Jaen, the Algarves, Algeciras, Gibraltar and the Canary Islands, Count and Countess of Barcelona and Lords of Biscay and Molina, Dukes of Athens and Neopatria, Counts of Roussillon and Cerdagne, Marquises of Oristano and Goziano. Whereas on behalf of certain persons established in the island of Hispaniola, and of others who desire to establish themselves therein, we have been petitioned to command that lands should be granted and assigned to them in the said island, in which they might sow corn and other seeds, and plant orchards, cotton-trees, flax, vines, trees, sugar-canes and other plants, and might make and build houses, mills and machines for the said sugar, and other buildings profitable and necessary for their livelihood, all which is of service, advantage and utility to us as well as to the residents in the said island: Therefore by these presents we give licence and authority to you, Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean, and our Viceroy and Governor in the said island, that in all the districts thereof you may and shall give and distribute to such persons, and to each of them, now living and dwelling in the said island, and to those who from now henceforth shall go to live and dwell therein, the lands, hills and waters which you shall consider proper to be given and allotted to each of them, according to his rank, his service to us, and the condition and quality of his person and estate, marking by boundaries and landmarks

personas por todas, por el tiempo e segunt que a vos bien visto fuere, con tanto que el sueldo e mantenimiento que las tales personas que acrecentardes ovieren de aver seles pague de qual quier mercaderia e otras cosas de valor que se oviere en las dichas Yndias, syn que nos mandemos proveyer para ello de otra parte. Fecha en la cibdad de Burgos a veynte e dos dias del mes de abril de mill e quatrocientos e noventa e syete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Fernand Alvares. Acordada.

DON Fernando e Doña Ysabel por la gracia de Dios Rey e Reyna de Castilla, de Leon, de Aragon, de Sicilia, de Granada, de Toledo, de Valencia, de Gallizia, de Mallorcas, de Sevilla, de Cerdeña, de Cordova, de Corcega, de Murcia, de Jaben, delos Algarves, de Algesira, de Gibraltar e delas yslas de Canaria, Conde e Condesa de Barcelona e Señores de Viscaya e de Molina, Duques de Atenas e de Neopatria, Condes de

Rosellon e de Çerdania, Marqueses de Oristan e de Goçiano. Por quanto por parte de algunas personas que estan avezindadas en la ysla Española e de otras que se quieren avesindar en ella, nos fue suplicado les mandasemos dar e señalar en la dicha ysla tierras en que ellos pudiesen sembrar pan e otras semillas e plantar buertas e algodones e linares e viñas e arboles e cañaberales de azucar e otras plantas e faser e edeficar casas e molinos e ingenios para el dicho açucar e otros edeficios provechosos y neçesarios para su bivar, lo qual es servicio nuestro e bien e utilidad como delos moradores dela dicha ysla, por ende por la presente damos liçençia e facultad a vos Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceana e nuestro Viso Rey e Governador en la dicha ysla, para que en todos los terminos della podades dar e repartir e dedes e repartades alas tales personas e a cada uno dellos que agora biven e moran en la dicha ysla e alos que de aqui adelante fueren a bivar e morar en ella, las tierras e montes e aguas que vos vierdes que a cada uno dellos se deve dar e repartir segund quien fuere, e lo que nos oviere servido e la condiçion e calidad de su persona e bivar, e limitando e amojando [amojonando] a

cada uno lo que asy le dierdes e repartierdes para que aquello aya e tengan e posea por suyo e como suyo, e lo use e plante e labre e se aproveche dello, con facultad dello poder vender e dar e donar e trocar e canbiar e enagenar e canbiar e conservar e fazer dello e enello todo lo que quisyere e por bien toviere como de cosa suya propia e a vida, de justo derecho titulo, obligandose las tales personas de tener e mantener vesindad con su casa poblada en la dicha ysla Española por quatro años primeros syguientes contados desde el dia que les dierdes e entregardes las tales tierras e haciendas, e que faran en la dicha ysla casas e plantaran las dichas viñas e huertas en la manera e cantidad que a vos bien visto fuere con tanto que en las tales tierras e montes e aguas que asy dierdes e repartierdes las tales personas non puedan tener ni tengan jurisdiccion alguna civil ni criminal, ni cosa acontada ni debesada ni termino redondo mas de aquello que tovieren cercado de una tapia en alto e

que todo lo otro descercado, cogidos los frutos y esquilmos dello, sea pasto comun e baldio a todos. E asy mismo reservamos para nos el brasyl e qual quier metal de oro e plata e otro metal que en las tales tierras se hallare. E asy mesmo que las tales personas a quien dierdes e repartierdes las dichas tierras non puedan faser ni fagan en ellas ni en parte dellas cargo ni descargo alguno de metal ni de brasyl ni de otra cosa alguna que a nos pertenesce e de que por nuestro mandado se ha de faser cargo e descargo. E que solamente ellos puedan senbrar e coger e llevar e gastar los frutos e pan e semillas e arboles e viñas e algodones e que en las dichas tierras senbraren e cogieren, como dicho es. E queremos e mandamos que las tierras que les vos dierdes e repartierdes en la manera que dicha es ningunas ni algunas personas non gelas tomen ni ocupen ni les pongan en ellas ni en parte dellas embargo ni ynpedimento alguno mas libre mente gelas dexen tener e poseber e usar e gozar dellas segund que en esta nuestra carta se contiene. E los unos ni los otros non fagan ende al por alguna manera, so pena dela nuestra merced e de diez mill maravedis a cada uno que lo contrario bisyere, para la nuestra camara. Dada en la villa de Medina

what you shall thus give and allot to every one; so that he may have, hold and possess it for and as his own, and may occupy, plant and cultivate it, and make his profit thereof; with power to sell, give, grant, exchange, alienate, mortgage, retain, and do therewith and therein whatever he may please and think fit, as with his own property, for life, by a just and legal title; such persons undertaking to keep and maintain residence with their inhabited house in the said island of Hispaniola for four years next ensuing, reckoned from the day on which you shall give and deliver to them such lands and properties; and to build houses in the said island and plant the said vineyards and orchards in the manner and quantity which shall seem good to you; provided that in such lands, hills and waters as you shall thus give and allot, such persons cannot and may not hold any civil or criminal jurisdiction, nor any enclosure, or several pasture, or ring-fence, except what they may enclose to the height of one earthen block; and that all the rest, being unenclosed, when the fruits and harvests thereof have been gathered, shall be common pasture and fallow to all. And likewise we reserve to ourselves the brazil, and any metal of gold and silver and other metal which shall be found in such lands. And likewise that such persons to whom you shall give and allot the said lands cannot and may not lade or unlade therein or in any part thereof, any metal or brazil or anything else belonging to us, and for which our order to lade and unlade is required. And that they may only sow, gather, raise and consume the fruits, corn, seeds, trees, vines, cotton and whatsoever they shall sow and gather in the said lands, as aforesaid. And it is our will and pleasure that no other persons shall take from them or occupy the lands which you shall give and allot to them in the manner aforesaid, or place any sequestration or obstruction thereon or on any part thereof, but shall allow them freely to hold, possess, use and enjoy them according to what is contained in this patent. And neither the one nor the other of them shall do contrary hereto in any manner, under pain of our displeasure and of ten thousand maravedis to our chamber to every one who shall do the contrary. Given in the town of Medina

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Donfernãdo Edoña

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del Campo, on the twenty-second day of the month of July, in the year of the nativity of our Saviour Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. I, John de la Parra, Secretary of the King and of the Queen our Lords, caused it to be written by their command. And on the dorse of the said patent it said: Granted, Roderick Doctor. Ferdinand Hortiz, pro-chancellor. Registered, Doctor.

Don Ferdinand and Donna Isabella,

by the grace of God King and Queen of Castile, Leon, Aragon, Sicily, Granada, Toledo, Valencia, Galicia, Majorca, Seville, Sardinia, Cordoba, Corsica, Murcia, Jaen, the Algarbes, Algeriras, Gibraltar and the Canary Islands, Count and Countess of Barcelona and Lords of Biscay and Molina, Dukes of Athens and Neopatria, Counts of Roussillon and Cerdagne, Marquises of Oristano and Goziano. For that it is the peculiar privilege of Kings and Princes to honour and exalt and to confer labours and graces upon their subjects and lieges, especially upon those who serve them well and faithfully; we, perceiving this, and taking into consideration the many good and faithful services which you, Don Bartholomew Columbus, brother of Don Christopher, our Admiral of the Ocean and Viceroy and Governor of the islands newly found in the Indies, have rendered and do render to us every day, and which we hope you will render to us from henceforth, do approve, and it is our will and pleasure, that from henceforth you shall call and entitle yourself Adelantado of the said islands newly found in the said Indies, and shall have power to use, exercise and perform in the said islands, and in every one of them, all things which the other Adelantados of our said kingdoms are able to perform; and that you shall have and enjoy, and that there shall be observed towards you, all the honours, graces,

del Campo, a veynte e dos dias del mes de julio, año del nacimiento de nuestro Salvador Jesu Christo de mill e quatroçientos e noventa e syete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Yo Juan dela Parra Secretario del Rey e dela Reyna nuestros Señores la fiz escrivir por su mandado. E en las espaldas dela dicha carta desya: Acor-dada. Rodricus Doctor. Fernand Hortiz por chançiller. Registrada. Doctor.

DON Fernando e Doña Ysabel por la gracia de Dios Rey e Reyna de Castilla, de Leon, de Aragon, de Seçilia, de Granada, de Toledo, de Valencia, de Gallizia, de Mallorcas, de Sevilla, de Cerdeña, de Cordova, de Corçega, de Murcia, de Jaben, delos Algarbes, de Algesira, de Gibraltar e delas yslas de Canaria, Conde e Condesa de Barcelona e Señores de Viscaya e de Molina, Duques de Atenas e de Neopatria, Condes de Rusellon e de Çerdania, Marqueses de Oristan e de Goçiano. Por que alos Reyes e Príncipes es propia

cosa de honrrar e sublimar e fazer merçedes e graças alos sus subditos e naturales especial mente a aquellos que bien e leal mente los sirven, lo qual por nos visto e considerando los muchos e buenos e leales serviçios que vos Don Bartolome Colon, hermano de Don Christoval nuestro Almirante del mar oceano e Viso Rey e Governador delas yslas nueva mente falladas en las Yndias, nos avedes fecho e fasedes de cada dia e esperamos que nos fareys de aqui adelante, tenemos por bien e es nuestra merçed e voluntad que de aqui adelante vos llameys e yntituleys Adelantado delas dichas yslas nueva mente balladas en las dichas Yndias, e podades usar e exerçer e faser en las dichas yslas e en cada una dellas todas las cosas que los otros Adelantados delos dichos nuestros reynos pueden faser, e que ayades e gozedes e vos sean guardadas todas las honrras e graças

e mercedes e prebeminencias e prerrogativas que son devidas e se deven fazer e guardar segund las leyes por nos fechas en las cortes de Toledo e las otras leyes de nuestros reynos, a los otros nuestros Adelantados delos dichos nuestros reynos asy en sus Adelantamientos como fuera dellos. E por esta nuestra carta o por su traslado signado de escrivano publico, mandamos al yllustrissimo Principe Don Juan nuestro mui caro e mui amado hijo e a los ynfantes, perlados, duques, marqueses, condes, e adelantados, e ricos omes, maestros delas hordenes, priores, commendadores e subcommendadores, e a los del nuestro consejo e oydores dela nuestra abdiencia, alcaldes e alguasiles e otras justicias quales quier dela nuestra casa e corte e chancilleria e a todos los conjejos, justicias, regidores, cavalleros, escuderos, oficiales e omes buenos delas cibdades e villas e logares delos dichos nuestros reynos e señorios, e al dicho nuestro Almirante, Viso Rey e Governador delas dichas yslas e a los vecinos e moradores e ala otra gente que en ellas estan e estovieren de asyento o en otra qual quier manera, que de aqui adelante vos yntitulen e llamen e vos ayan e tengan por Adelantado delas dichas yslas e tierra firme e vos guarden e fagan guardar todas las dichas honrras e prebeminencias, prerrogativas e ymunidades que segund las dichas leyes vos deven ser guardadas, e vos recudan e fagan recudir con los derechos e salarios al dicho oficio de nuestro Adelantado anexos e pertenecientes bien e conplida mente en guisa que vos non mengue ende cosa alguna, ca nos por esta nuestra carta vos criamos e fasemos Adelantado delas dichas yslas e tierra firme que asy nueva mente se han fallado e descubierto en las Yndias, e vos recebimos e avemos por recebido al dicho oficio e al uso e exercicio del. E mandamos que en ello ni en parte dello, embargo ni ynpedimento alguno vos non pongan ni consyentan poner. E sy desto que dicho es quisyerdes nuestra carta de previllejo, mandamos al nuestro chanciller e notarios e a los otros oficiales que estan ala tabla delos nuestros sellos, que vos lo den e pasen e sellen, e los unos ni los otros non fagan ende al por alguna manera, so pena dela nuestra merced e de dies mill maravedis a cada uno que lo contrario fisyere para la nuestra camara. E demas mandamos al ome que les esta nuestra carta mostrare que los enplase que parescan ante nos en la nuestra corte do quier que nos seamos, del dia que los enplase fasta quinse dias primeros syguientes sola dicha pena, sola qual mandamos a qual quier escrivano publico que para esto fuere llamado que de ende al que gelo mostrare testimonio signado con su sygno, por que nos sepamos

labours, pre-eminences and prerogatives which, according to the laws made by us in the Cortes of Toledo and the other laws of our kingdoms, are due and ought to be done and observed to our other Adelantados of our said kingdoms, as well within their governorships as beyond the same. And by this our patent, or by the transcript thereof signed by a public scrivener, we command the most illustrious Prince Don John, our very dear and well-beloved son, and the Infantes, prelates, dukes, marquises, counts, adelantados, barons, masters of orders, priors, commanders, subcommanders, members of our council, auditors of our chamber, alcaldes, bailiffs and all other justices whomsoever of our household, court and chancery, and all the councillors, justices, governors, knights, esquires, officers and good men of the cities, towns and places of our said kingdoms and dominions, and our said Admiral, Viceroy and Governor of the said islands, and the inhabitants, sojourners and other people who, under contract or in any other manner, are or shall be therein, that from henceforth they entitle and call you, and have and hold you as Adelantado of the said islands and mainland, and that they observe and cause to be observed towards you all the said honours, pre-eminences, prerogatives and immunities which, according to the said laws, ought to be observed towards you; and that they pay and cause to be paid to you the dues and salaries annexed and appertaining to the said office of our Adelantado, fully and completely, in such wise that they do not diminish aught thereof; for we by this our patent create and make you Adelantado of the said islands and mainland which have thus been newly found and discovered in the Indies, and we receive you and hold you as received into the said office and to the use and exercise of the same; and we command that neither therein nor in any part thereof shall they place or consent to place any hindrance or impediment in your way. And if of what is aforesaid you shall desire to have our patent of privilege, we command our chancellor and notaries, and the other officers who are at the board of our seals, to deliver, pass and seal it for you; and neither the one nor the other of them shall do contrary hereto in any manner, under pain of our displeasure and of ten thousand maravedis for our chamber, to everyone who shall do the contrary. And further we command the man who shall show them this our patent, to cite them to appear before us in our court, wheresoever we may be, within fifteen days next following the day of citation, under the said penalty; under which also we command any public scrivener who shall be summoned for this purpose to give to the man who shall show it to him a certificate thereof signed with his signature, whereby we may know

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how our command is fulfilled. Given in the town of Medina del Campo, on the twenty-second day of the month of July, in the year of the nativity of our Saviour Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. I, John de la Parra, Secretary of the King and of the Queen our Lords, caused it to be written by their command. And on the dorse of the said patent it said: Granted, Roderick Doctor. Ferdinand Hortiz, pro-Chancellor. Registered, Doctor.

The King and the Queen.

By these presents we give licence and authority to you Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean and member of our council, in order that you may have power to pay, and may pay, to the persons who have been, are now, and from henceforth shall be, agreeably to the instruction which you hold from us, of the number of the persons who have to remain in the said Indies, and to the persons and shipowners who have conveyed and shall convey provisions and other things to the said Indies, all the moneys which are due to them and shall henceforth become due to them for any wages, provisions, and freightages of ships; any payment that is to be made here being first of all certified by the Bishop of Badajoz and by you, and any payment that is to be made in the Indies, by you and by the deputy of our chief accountants residing there, giving to each what is and shall be justly due to him. And this you are to pay and may pay from any merchandise and other things which may be obtained in the said Indies, provided that the payment or warrant which you shall deliver to them be signed by the said deputy of our chief accountants and entered in our books, for which we give you full power. Done in the town of Alcala de Henares, on the twenty-third day of the month of December in the year ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen, Ferdinand Alvares. Granted.

The King and the Queen.

Reverend Father in
Christ, Bishop of Badajoz, and Don Christopher Columbus, Admiral of the Ocean, both members of

mientos e fleytes de navios, syendo aquello primeramente averiguado lo que aca se oviere de pagar por el obispo de Badajoz e por vos e lo que oviere de pagar en las Yndias por vos e por el lugar teniente de nuestros contadores mayores que alla resyden, dando a cada uno lo que justa mente se le deve e deviere. Lo qual les ayays de pagar e pagueys de quales quier mercaderias e otras cosas que en las dichas Yndias se ovieren, con tanto que la paga o librança que les bizierdes sea señalada del dicho lugar teniente de nuestros contadores mayores e asentada en los nuestros libros, para lo qual vos damos poder cumplido. Fecha en la villa de Alcala de Henares, a veynte e tres dias del mes de disienbre de noventa e syete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Fernand Alvares. Acordada.

El Rey e la Reyna.

§ REVERENDO yn Christo Padre Obispo de Badajoz e Don Christoval Colon Almirante del mar oceano anbos del

en como se cumple nuestro mandado. Dada en la villa de Medina del Campo, a veynte y doss dias del mes de julio, año del nacimiento de nuestro Salvador Jesu Christo de mill e quatroçientos y noventa e syete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Yo Juan dela Parra Secretario del Rey e dela Reyna nuestros señores la fiz escrivir por su mandado. Y en las espaldas dela dicha carta desya: Acordada, Rodricus Doctor. Fernando Hortiz por chançiller Registrada Doctor.

El Rey e la Reyna.

§ POR la presente damos licencia e facultad a vos Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano e del nuestro consejo, para que podades pagar e pague a las personas que han estado e estan e estovieren de aqui adelante, conforme ala instruccion que de nos teneys del numero dela gente que ha de estar en las dichas Yndias e alas personas e dueños de navios que han llevado, e llevaren mantenimientos e otras cosas alas dichas Yndias, todos los maravedis que seles deven e devieren de aqui adelante de quales quier sueldos e manteni-

nuestro consejo. *Vimos una vuestra letra, y cerca dello que desís que non se ha proveydo cosa alguna fasta agora en lo de los mantenimientos que han de yr alas Yndias, a cabsa que non hallays persona que los tome a cargo por los precios que de aca fueron tasados en las ynstruções que vos el dicho Almirante llevases, porque diz que valen los dichos mantenimientos a mayores precios que aca se tasarón, y pues asy es nos vos mandamos y encargamos que ambos a dos junta mente lo veays e busqueys personas fieles que lo tomen, y taseys el precio que justo fuere e vos pareciere que se les deve dar, aviendo respeto al valor de los dichos mantenimientos, e sy non hallardes tales personas lo proveays como a vos otros mejor pareciere por manera que non se detenga la partida de vos el dicho Almirante, ca para ello vos damos poder cumplido. Fecho en la villa de Alcalá de Henares a reynnte e tres dias del mes de disiembre de noventa e syete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Fernand Alvares.* E en las espaldas desya Acordada.

our council. We have seen a letter from you, and with reference to your statement that up to the present time nothing has been done in the matter of the provisions which are to go to the Indies, because you do not find any persons to take the contract for them at the prices which were here placed upon them in the instructions that you, the said Admiral, took with you, because they say that the said provisions are worth higher prices than those placed upon them here; and this being so, we command and charge both of you jointly to look for and seek trustworthy persons to undertake it, and fix such a price as may be just and may appear to you reasonable to give them, having regard to the value of the said provisions; and if you do not find such persons, you are to take whatever measures may seem best to you, in such wise that the departure of yourself, the said Admiral, may not be delayed, for we give you full power to that effect. Done in the town of Alcalá de Henares, on the twenty-third day of the month of December in the year ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen, Ferdinand Alvares. And on the dorse it said, Granted.

Don Ferdinand and Donna Isabella,

by the grace of God King and Queen of Castile, Leon, Aragon, Sicily, Granada, Toledo, Valencia, Galicia, Majorca, Seville, Sardinia, Cordova, Corsica, Murcia, Jaen, the Algarves, Algeciras, Gibraltar and the Canary Islands, Count and Countess of Barcelona and Lords of Biscay and Molina, Dukes of Athens and Neopatria, Counts of Roussillon and Cerdagne, Marquises of Oristano and Goziano, To you the knights and esquires, officers and good men, and all other persons of whatsoever estate and condition you may be, who by our command have been, are and from henceforth shall be in the islands discovered and to be discovered by our command in the Ocean in the region of the Indies, and to each and any of you, health and grace. You know well that Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the said Indies in the said Ocean, is our Viceroy and Governor thereof by virtue of our patents of commission which we have ordered

DON Fernando e Doña Ysabel por la gracia de Dios Rey e Reyna de Castilla, de Leon, de Aragon, de Sicilia, de Granada, de Toledo, de Valencia, de Gallizia, de Mallorcas, de Sevilla, de Cerdeña, de Cordova, de Corçega, de Murcia, de Jaben, delos Algarves, de Algesira, de Gibraltar e delas yslas de Canaria, Conde e Condesa de Barcelona e Señores de Viscaya e de Molina, Duques de Atenas e de Neopatria, Condes de Rosellon e de Cerdania, Marqueses de Oristan e de Goçiano: a vos los cavalleros e escuderos, oficiales e omes buenos e otras quales quier personas de qual quier estado o condiçion que soys, que por nuesiro mandado fuistes e estays e estovierdes de aquí adelante enla[s] yslas por nuestro mandado descubiertas e por descubrir enel mar oceano enla parte delas Yndias, e a cada uno e qual quier de vos, salud e gracia. Bien sabeys como Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante delas dichas Yndias del dicho mar oceano es nuestro Viso Rey e Governador dellas por virtud de nuestras cartas de poderes que para ello le man-

no anglo. Vimos. Vm. Vm. letra. y erra. dlo. j. d. g. j. no
 G. h. j. n. y. d. n. G. al. G. m. j. p. i. s. n. G. p. G. h. d. l. o. a.
 G. m. t. r. y. G. d. o. s. G. f. m. d. y. z. n. l. u. s. y. n. d. i. s. n. a. b. G. a.
 G. n. d. f. e. l. l. a. y. s. j. r. z. G. u. i. j. l. o. s. j. o. n. r. n. i. n. r. G. j. o. r. l. o. s. p. r. e.
 G. u. o. s. G. d. n. a. f. u. e. r. o. t. u. G. i. b. o. s. y. n. l. u. s. y. n. s. t. r. u. a. d. i. e. s.
 G. u. o. s. e. l. d. f. i. l. i. u. s. m. e. m. o. r. s. p. o. r. j. d. i. s. y. n. l. e. n. l. o. s.
 G. f. i. s. m. a. t. r. y. m. e. t. o. s. n. i. m. y. o. r. s. y. G. u. o. s. G. n. a. G. t. o. d. i.
 n. o. y. y. n. d. s. a. y. e. s. n. o. s. v. o. s. m. i. d. i. m. o. s. y. e. n. i. n. G. n. u. o. s.
 G. n. u. b. o. s. y. d. o. s. j. u. n. i. u. s. m. e. n. t. l. o. v. e. n. y. s. G. b. u. s. j. u. n. y. s. p. o.
 n. a. s. f. u. l. e. s. G. l. o. t. o. n. o. y. t. u. G. r. y. s. d. l. y. G. o. G. p. f. o.
 f. f. u. r. G. u. o. s. p. a. t. r. i. e. r. e. G. G. r. l. e. s. d. v. e. d. a. d. v. e. n. d. b.
 f. f. o. p. e. r. a. l. v. a. t. o. i. d. l. o. s. G. f. i. s. m. a. t. r. y. m. e. t. o. s. n. i. l. G. r.
 i. n. d. f. e. l. l. e. d. s. n. l. o. s. j. d. G. u. n. d. l. o. p. n. e. y. s. i. o. n. d. o. v. o. d.
 o. t. r. o. s. m. e. j. o. r. y. a. t. G. u. r. z. e. f. f. o. r. m. a. n. a. G. n. o. G. r. d. e.
 t. r. e. s. l. o. p. t. i. d. a. d. v. o. s. e. l. G. f. i. l. i. u. s. m. r. a. m. n. i. G. u. l. l. o.
 v. o. s. d. i. m. o. s. p. o. d. i. m. p. h. i. b. f. u. s. p. l. o. v. e. l. l. a. d. u. l. a. b.
 d. f. i. n. a. y. s. a. v. y. n. r. e. q. u. i. d. i. a. s. d. l. m. a. s. d. d. i. g. n. i. e. d.
 i. n. d. e. n. e. G. r. e. r. d. i. m. o. s. y. o. r. l. o. s. y. G. u. l. l. y. y. a.
 j. o. r. m. i. d. a. b. d. l. t. y. e. d. l. u. s. f. f. y. n. a. f. f. u. n. d. u. l. a. t.
 n. e. u. l. o. s. r. o. p. a. l. o. n. s. d. o. y. a. d. i. v. i. d. u. d. e.

Confermādo e dōia y sa zel

(j. r. l. a. g. o. n. i. s. d. d. i. o. s. f. f. y. e. t. G. u. i. d. m. o. i. l. l. a. d. l. e. a.
 d. a. r. o. s. d. G. a. l. u. s. d. G. r. i. m. i. d. u. d. v. o. l. u. b. d. v. a. t. i.
 G. u. i. d. G. u. l. l. y. s. d. i. m. u. l. l. o. s. d. G. r. e. l. l. o. s. d. d. i. m. i.
 G. e. i. v. d. m. u. l. i. d. i. n. G. u. l. l. u. m. p. i. s. d. f. i. n. d. l. u. s. a. l. e. d. i. s.
 d. n. l. G. f. i. l. i. u. s. d. G. u. l. l. u. l. i. d. e. d. l. u. s. y. d. l. o. s. d. a. f. i. n. i. o. d. e.
 a. d. o. r. d. l. e. a. G. u. l. l. o. s. y. r. u. i. d. s. d. v. i. f. i. n. y. a. e. d. e. m. o. q.
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 e. d. f. i. l. i. u. s. m. i. d. G. u. i. d. d. o. p. f. i. l. i. u. s. d. G. r. i. m. i. d. u. s.
 v. o. d. l. o. s. m. i. l. l. e. p. s. e. r. o. n. d. o. e. f. f. u. n. d. i. o. e. o. s. t. i. u. s.
 n. o. q. u. e. s. t. i. o. s. G. r. i. q. r. i. G. u. o. s. d. e. q. u. i. d. G. r. i. v. o. l. u. b.
 e. o. v. u. d. G. u. o. s. G. r. y. s. G. r. i. d. i. p. o. m. i. d. l. u. b. f. u. y. o. s. d. l.
 r. o. y. s. e. f. f. o. m. e. r. d. s. d. G. r. i. a. d. l. e. n. t. G. u. l. l. o. y. d. l. o. s. j. o. r.
 i. n. d. m. a. d. l. u. s. d. s. m. b. h. e. r. u. s. e. j. o. r. d. o. v. b. p. i. G. u. l. l. u. s. c. o. r. r. a. w.
 G. u. l. l. o. p. u. r. i. d. l. o. s. y. n. d. i. a. s. e. n. a. d. u. d. o. n. o. e. q. i. t. G. r. i. d. i.
 v. o. s. G. u. l. l. u. d. e. G. r. i. b. i. e. G. u. l. l. y. s. v. i. n. d. i. n. p. o. m. i. d. u. l.
 v. o. l. u. n. i. p. o. a. l. u. s. d. l. o. s. d. i. f. i. s. y. n. d. i. a. s. d. e. o. f. i. m. i. d.
 e. o. r. m. o. e. d. i. p. o. v. o. f. f. y. y. o. l. l. o. s. d. u. m. b. i. d. l. l. u. s. j. o. r.
 v. i. r. t. u. d. d. i. n. p. i. s. n. i. s. d. j. o. r. i. s. e. p. h. i. l. l. i. l. e. n. n. i.

Erratum : Page 141, line 20 (translation), for “seventeenth” read “sixteenth.”

to be giben to him and have giben to him for that purpose. And since it is our will and pleasure that the said Admiral should hold the said charge of Viceroy and Governor and should use and exercise it in the said islands, and that you should all do and fulfil whatever he may order you on our behalf, and may perceive to be for the advancement of our service, we command that all and each of you shall so fulfil and perform it, and that you shall all submit to him and shall do and fulfil all that he may order you on our behalf, as though we commanded you in person, under the penalties which he may impose and order to be imposed upon you on our behalf, and which by these presents we do impose and regard as imposed upon you. And for the execution thereof upon those of you who shall do the contrary we give full power to the said Admiral Don Christopher Columbus, or to anyone who may hold his procuration; and neither the one nor the other of you or them shall do contrary hereto in any manner, under pain of our displeasure and of ten thousand maravedis to our chamber upon every one who shall do the contrary. Given in the city of Segovia, on the seventeenth day of the month of August, in the year of the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and ninety-four. I the King. I the Queen. I, Ferdinand Alvares of Toledo, Secretary of the King and of the Queen our Lords, caused it to be written by their command. And on the dorse of the said patent was written as follows: Registered, Alonso Peres. Peter Gutierrez, Chancellor.

Don Ferdinand and Donna Isabella,

by the grace of God King and Queen of Castile, Leon, Aragon, Sicily, Granada, Toledo, Valencia, Galicia, Majorca, Seville, Sardinia, Cordoba, Corsica, Murcia, Jaen, the Algarves, Algeciras, Gibraltar and the Canary Islands, Count and Countess of Barcelona and Lords of Biscay and Molina, Dukes of Athens and Neopatria, Counts of Roussillon and Cerdagne,

nasçimiento de nuestro Señor Jesu Christo de mill e quatroçientos e noventa e quatro años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Yo Fernand Alvares de Toledo Secretario del Rey e dela Reyna nuestros Señores la fise escribir por su mandado. E en las espaldas dela dicha carta estava escrito esto que se sigue: Registrada, Alonso Peres. Pero Gutierrez Chançiller.

damos dar e dimos. E por que nuestra merced e voluntad es que el dicho Almirante tenga el dicho cargo de nuestro Viso Rey e Governador e que lo use e exercite en las dichas yslas e que todos fagays e cunplays todo lo que el de nuestra parte vos mandare y entendiere ser cumplido a nuestro servicio, nos vos mandamos a todos e cada uno de vos que asy lo cunplays y esecuteys, e que todos vos conformeys con el e fagades e cunplades todo lo que el de nuestra parte vos mandare como sy nos en persona vos lo mandasemos, solas penas que vos pusyere e mandare poner de nuestra parte, las quales por la presente vos ponemos e avemos por puestas. [E] para las esecutar en los que lo contrario fisyeredes damos poder cumplido al dicho Almirante Don Christoval Colon o a quien su poder oviere, e los unos, ni los otros no fagades ni fagan ende al por alguna manera so pena dela nuestra merced e de diez mill maravedis para la nuestra camara a cada uno delos que lo contrario fisyere. Dada en la çibdad de Segovia a diez e seys dias del mes de agosto, año del

DON Fernando e Doña Ysabel por la graçia de Dios Rey e Reyna de Castilla, de Leon, de Aragon, de Seçilia, de Granada, de Toledo, de Valençia, de Gallizia, de Mallorcas, de Sevilla, de Çerdeña, de Cordova, de Corçega, de Murçia, de Jaben, delos Algarves, de Algesira, de Gibraltar e delas yslas de Canaria, Conde e Condesa de Barcelona e Señores de Viscaya e de Molina, Duques de Atenas e de Neopatria, Condes de Rosellon e de Çerdania,

*Marqueses de Oris-
tan e de Goçiano. A
todos e quales quier
capitanes maestros e
patrones e contra-
maestres e marineros
de naos e caravelas e
otras fustas, e otras
quales quier personas
de qual quier condi-
cion que sean nues-
tros vasallos subditos
e naturales, a quien
lo de yuso enesta nu-
estra carta contenido
atapñe o atapñer
pueda, e a cada uno
e qual quier de vos a
quien esta nuestra
carta fuere mostrada
o el traslado della
signado de escrivano
pubblico, salud e
gracia. Sepades que
nos avemos mandado
a Don Christoval
Colon nuestro Almi-
rante del mar oceano
e nuestro Viso Rey
e Governador delas
yslas e tierra firme
del dicho mar oceano
ala parte delas Yn-
dias, que con ciertas
naos e caravelas e
otras fustas como nu-
estro capitan vaya
alas dichas Yndias e
tierra firme que son
enla dicha parte de-
las Yndias descubi-
ertas e por descubrir.
Por ende por la pre-
sente mandamos a to-
dos e a cada uno de vos
los dichos maestros
e capitanes e patrones
e contramaestres e
compañas delas di-
chas naos e caravelas e otras fustas, e a todas las compañías que enellas e en cada una dellas nave-
garen que tengades e tengan por nuestro Capitan general delas dichas naos e fustas e caravelas al
dicho Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante e Viso Rey e Governador del dicho mar oceano
e le obedescades e tengades por nuestro Capitan general e fagades, e cunplades e pongades en
obra todo lo que por el de nuestra parte vos fuere dicho e mandado e a cada cosa e parte dello
segunt e como e enla forma e manera e alos tienpos e solas penas que el de nuestra parte vos man-
dare syn poner enello escusa ni dilacion alguna, bien asy e a tan cunplida mente como sy nos en
persona vos lo mandasemos, ca nos por la presente le fasemos nuestro Capitan general delos dichos
navios e caravelas e otras fustas e le damos poder e facultad para las mandar e governar como
nuestro Capitan general e para exsecutar enla compañía dellas quales quier penas en que cayeren*

Marquises of Oristano and Goçiano: To all and any of the
captains, masters, owners, mates and mariners of ships,
caravels and other foists, and to all other persons of whatso-
ever condition who are our vassals, subjects and denizens,
and whom the following contents of this our patent do and
may concern, and to each and any of you to whom this our
patent shall be shown, or the transcript thereof signed by a
public scrivener, health and grace. Know ye that we have
commanded Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the
Ocean and our Viceroy and Governor of the islands and
mainland of the said Ocean in the region of the Indies, to go
with certain ships, caravels and other foists, as our Captain,
to the said islands and mainland which are discovered and to
be discovered in the said region of the Indies. Wherefore
by these presents we command all and each of you the said
masters, captains, owners, mates and crews of the said ships,
caravels and other foists, and all the crews which may sail
in them and in each of them, that you and they do hold as our
Captain General of the said ships, foists and caravels, the
said Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral, Viceroy and
Governor of the said Ocean, and that you obey him and accept
him as our Captain General, and do and fulfil and carry out
all that he shall order and command you on our behalf, and
every parcel and part thereof, according as, and in the form
and manner, and at the times, and under the penalties which
he may order on our behalf, without making any excuse or
delay therein, in the very same manner and just as com-
pletely as if we in person commanded you; for we by these
presents do make him Captain General of the said ships, cara-
vels and other foists, and do give him power and authority to
direct and govern them as our Captain General, and to execute
on the crew thereof such penalties as they may become liable to

and incur through not fulfilling and obeying his commands, as it is aforesaid. But it is our will and pleasure that neither our said captain general Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral, Viceroy and Governor, nor you or any one of you shall go to the mine which is held by the most serene King of Portugal, our brother, or intermeddle in the trade thereof, for it is our will to observe, and to cause to be observed by our subjects and liegemen, what we have stipulated and agreed upon with the said King of Portugal respecting the said mine; and this we command you so to fulfil under pain of our displeasure, and of confiscation of your property to our chamber and treasury. Given in the city of Barcelona, on the twentieth day of the month of May in the year of the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and ninety-three. I the King. I the Queen. I, Ferdinand Alvarez of Toledo, Secretary of the King and of the Queen our Lords, caused it to be written by their command. And on the dorse of the said patent was written as follows: Granted, Roderick Doctor. Registered, Alonso Peres. Peter Gutierres, Chancellor.

The King and the Queen.

Forasmuch as in the powers which we have commanded to be given, and have given, to you, Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the islands and mainland which have been discovered and are to be discovered in the Ocean, in the region of the Indies, and our Viceroy and Governor of the said islands and mainland, it is contained that you are to grant the charters and decrees patent which it may be necessary to make and pass in the said islands and mainland in our name, thus, Don Ferdinand and Donna Isabella, etc., sealing them

Reyna. Yo Fernand Alvares de Toledo Secretario del Rey e dela Reyna nuestros Señores la fiz escribir por su mandado. E en las espaldas dela dicha carta estava escrito lo que se sygue: Acor-dada, Rodricus Doctor. Registrada, Alonso Peres. Pero Gutierres Chançiller.

El Rey e la Reyna.

POR quanto enel poder que mandamos dar e dimos a vos Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante delas Yndias e tierra firme que se ha descubierto e se ha de descubrir enel mar oceano ala parte delas Yndias e nuestro Viso Rey e Governador delas dichas yslas e tierra firme, se contiene que vos ayays de librar las cartas e provisiones patentes que se oviesen de fazer e espedir enlas dichas Yndias e tierra firme en nuestro nonbre por Don Fernando e Doña Ysabel ec. las quales han

e yncurrieren por non cunplir e obedecer sus mandamientos como dicho es. Pero es nuestra merced e voluntad que el dicho nuestro Capitan general Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante e Viso Rey e Governador, ni vos otros ni alguno de vos no vayades ala mina ni al trato della que tiene el Serenisymo Rey de Portugal nuestro hermano, porque nuestra voluntad es de guardar e que se guarde por nuestros subditos e naturales lo que cerca dela dicha mina tenemos capitulado e asentado conel dicho Rey de Portugal, lo qual vos mandamos que asy cunplays so pena dela nuestra merced e de confiscacion de vuestros bienes para la nuestra camara e fisco. Dada enla çibdad de Barcelona a veynte e ocho dias del mes de mayo, año del nascimiento de nuestro Señor Jesu Christo de mill e quatroçientos e noventa e tres años. Yo el Rey. Yo la

deyr selladas con nuestro sello que para ello vos mandamos que llevasedes, e podría acaecer que vos non estoviesedes en las dichas Yndias e tierra firme por que conuernia que fuesedes a descubrir otras yslas e tierra firme o fazer otras cosas cunplideras a nuestro servicio decuya cabsa avreys de dexar en vuestro logar alguna persona que entienda e provea en las cosas delas dichas Yndias e tierra firme en vuestra absençia, el qual no podría entender ni proveber en ello dando las dichas nuestras cartas e provisiones en nuestro nonbre syn aver para ello nuestro poder e abtoridad. Porende por la presentedamos poder e facultad ala persona que en vuestra absençia vos nonbrardes para quedar en las dichas yslas e tierra firme para que pueda librar e expedir los negocios y cabsas que ally ocurieren, dando las dichas provisiones e cartas en nuestro nonbre e sellandolas con nuestro sello, segund que vos lo podriades hazer syendo presente en las dichas yslas e tierra firme, por virtud delos dichos nuestros poderes que teneys, delo qual mandamos dar la presente firmada de nuestros nonbres. Fecha en Barçelona a veynte e ocho dias de mayo de noventa e tres años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna Fernand Alvares. E en las espaldas dezia, Acordada.

with our seal which we commanded you to take for this purpose; and it might happen that you might not be present in the said islands and mainland, because it might be advisable for you to go to discover other islands and mainland, or to perform other things for the advancement of our service; for which cause you will have to leave in your place some person to superintend and administer the affairs of the said islands and mainland in your absence, who could not superintend and administer them by granting our said charters and decrees in our name without having our power and authority to that effect: Therefore, by these presents, we give power and authority to the person whom you may nominate in your absence to remain in the said islands and mainland, that he may determine and dispatch the matters and causes which may arise there, giving the said decrees and charters in our name, and sealing them with our seal, just as you might do if you were present in the said islands and mainland, in virtue of our said powers which you hold: whereof we command these presents to be given, signed with our names. Done in Barcelona, on the twenty-eighth day of May in the year ninety-three. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen, Ferdinand Alvares. And on the dorse it said, Granted.

The King and the Queen.

Forasmuch as according to the agreement which we commanded to be made with you, Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean, and our Viceroy and Governor of the islands and mainland of the said Ocean, which are in the region of the Indies, it is contained among other things that for the offices of government which it may be necessary to have in the said islands and mainland, you are to nominate three persons for each office, and that we shall nominate and appoint one of them to such office; and it is impossible at present to observe the said agreement owing to your early departure for the said islands; therefore, relying upon you, our said

ment which we commanded to be made with you, Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean, and our Viceroy and Governor of the islands and mainland of the said Ocean, which are in the region of the Indies, it is contained among other things that for the offices of government which it may be necessary to have in the said islands and mainland, you are to nominate three persons for each office, and that we shall nominate and appoint one of them to such office; and it is impossible at present to observe the said agreement owing to your early departure for the said islands; therefore, relying upon you, our said

El Rey e la Reyna.

POR quanto segund el asyento que nos mandamos fazer con vos Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano e nuestro Viso Rey e Governador delas yslas e tierra firme del dicho mar oceano que son ala parte delas Yndias, entre otras se contiene que para los ofiçios de governaçion que oviere de aver en las dichas yslas e tierra firme vos ayays de nonbrar tres personas para cada ofiçio e que nos nonbremos e proveamos al uno dellos del tal ofiçio, y al presente non se puede guardar el dicho asyento por la brevedad de vuestra partida para las dichas yslas, confiando de vos el dicho

[illegible]

Admiral, Viceroy and Governor, that you will provide therefor in a trustworthy manner and for the advancement of our service and of the good government of the said islands, by these presents we give you licence, power and authority that, as long as it shall be our will and pleasure, you may fill up the said offices of government of the said islands and mainland with such persons, and for such time, and in such form and manner as shall seem good to you; and to those persons who shall be thus appointed by you we give power and authority to use the said offices, according to the form and manner which shall be contained in the commissions which you shall give them of the said offices. Done in the city of Barcelona, on the twenty-eighth day of May in the year one thousand four hundred and ninety-three. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen, Ferdinand Alvares. Granted.

Don Ferdinand and Donna Isabella,

by the grace of God King and Queen of Castile, Leon, Aragon, Sicily, Granada, Toledo, Valencia, Galicia, Majorca, Seville, Sardinia, Cordoba, Corsica, Murcia, Jaen, the Algarves, Algeciras, Gibraltar and the Canary Islands, Count and Countess of Barcelona and Lords of Biscay and Molina, Dukes of Athens and Neopatria, Counts of Roussillon and Cerdagne, Marquises of Oristano and Goziano. Whereas you, Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral, Viceroy and Governor of the Ocean, have supplicated and prayed us as a favour to give you our power and authority to form and establish out of your properties, vassals, hereditaments, and perpetual offices, one or two entails, so that there may remain an enduring memorial of you and of your house and race, and that your descendants may be honoured; therefore, having regard thereto, and considering that it is the privilege of kings and princes to honour and exalt their subjects and denizens, and especially those who serve them well and faithfully, and because in the making of such entails honour accrues to the royal crown of these our

nuestro Almirante Viso Rey e Governador que lo proveeres fiable mente e como cumple a nuestro servicio e ala buena gobernaçion delas dichas yslas, por la presente vos damos licencia, poder, e facultad para que en tanto quanto fuere nuestra merced e voluntad podays proveer delos dichos oficios de gobernaçion delas dichas yslas e tierra firme alas personas e por el tienpo e en la forma e manera que a vos bien visto fuere. Alos quales que asy por vos fueren proveydos, les damos poder e facultad para usar delos dichos oficios segund e por la forma e manera que en vuestras provisyones que delos dichos oficios les diendes sera contenido. Fecha en la çibdat de Barcelona a veynte e ocho dias de mayo de mill e quatroçientos e noventa e tres años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Fernand Alvares. Acordada.

DON Fernando e Doña Ysabel por la gracia de Dios Rey e Reyna de Castilla, de Leon, de Aragon, de Sevilla, de Çerdeña, de

de Seçilia, de Granada, de Toledo, de Valençia, de Gallisia, de Mallorcas, de Cordova, de Corçega, de Murçia, de Jaben, delos Algarves, de Algesira, de Gibraltar, e delas yslas de Canaria, Conde e Condesa de Barcelona e Señores de Viscaya e de Molina, Duques de Atenas e de Neopatria, Condes de Rusellon e de Çerdania, Marqueses de Oristan e de Goçiano. Por quanto vos Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante, Viso Rey e Governador del mar oceano nos suplicastes e pedistes por merced que vos diesemos nuestro poder e facultad para faser e establecer de vuestros bienes, vasallos e heredamientos oficios perpetuos uno o dos mayoradgos por que quede perpetua memoria de vos e de vuestra casa e linaje e por que los que de vos vinieren sean honrrados, lo qual por nos visto, e consyderado que alos Reyes e Prínçipes es propia cosa honrrar e sublimar a sus subditos e naturales espeçial mente a aquellos que bien e leal mente los sirven e por que en se fazer los tales mayoradgos es honrra dela corona real destos nuestros

reynos e pro e bien dellos, e acatando los muchos buenos e leales e grandes e continuos servicios que vos el dicho Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante nos avedes fecho e fasedes de cada dia, e especial mente en descubrir e traber a nuestro poder e señorio las yslas e tierra firme que descubristes en el dicho mar oceano, mayor mente por que esperamos que con ayuda de Dios nuestro Señor redundara en mucho servicio suyo e honrra nuestra e pro e utilidad de nuestros reynos, e por que se espera que los pobladores delas dichas Yndias se convertiran a nuestra santa fe catolica, tovimoslo por bien e por esta nuestra carta, de nuestro propio motuo e cierta ciencia e poderio real absoluto de que enesta parte queremos usar e usamos como Rey e Reyna e Señores non reconocientes superior en lo temporal, vos damos licencia e facultad para que cada e quando vos quisyerdes e por bien tovierdes asy en vuestra vida por synple contrato e manda, como por donacion entre vivos, como por vuestro testamento e postrema voluntad e por cobdizildo o en otra manera qual quier que quisyerdes e por bien tovierdes podades fazer e fagades mayoradgo o mayoradgos, por una o dos o tres escrituras o por muchas tantas quantas veses e enla manera que quisyerdes e bien visto vos fuere e aquel o aquellos o qual quier cosa o parte dellos podades rebocar testar e emendar e anadir e quitar e menguar e acrecentar una e dos e tres veses e quantas mas vezes e como e enla manera que quisyerdes e bien visto vos fuere e que el dicho mayoradgo o mayoradgos podades hazer e fagades en Don Diego Colon vuestro hijo mayor legitimo o en qual quier de vuestros hijos herederos que oydia teneys o tovierdes de aqui adelante, e en defecto e falta de hijos en uno o dos de vuestros parientes o otras personas que vos quisierdes e bien visto vos fuere, e que lo podays fazer e fagays de quales quier vasallos e juridiciones e casas e tierras e heredamientos e molinos e dehesas e otros quales quier heredamientos e bienes e de quales

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 q. u. a. r. d. n. d. o. t. o. d. e. e. n. i. m. a. v. o. r. e. e. p. r. o. d. e. l. o. s.

offices which you hold from us by right and by inheritance; and that of all that is aforesaid and of every part and parcel thereof, which you now hold and possess, and which it appertains to you to have and to hold until now, and which you may from henceforth hold and possess, as well by labour and gifts as by renunciations, purchases, barter, exchanges, permutations or by any other titles whether of honour or of profit, or in any other manner, or for any other cause or reason that may exist, you shall have power to make and may make the said entail or entails entirely according to your will and free pleasure and disposition, as well of your said property and effects, entirely and completely, without any diminution, as of any portion or portions thereof; so that your said property, and any part or parcel thereof, may descend inbiviolably by entail on the said Don Diego Columbus, your son, and on your said sons and descendants on whom you shall please to make and shall make the said entail or entails, under the conditions, limitations, charges, settlements, and securities, nominations and substitutions of heirs, modes, rules, penalties and submissions which you may please and think fit, and with any ordinances, bequests, conditions and covenants, and in such form and manner as you shall settle, bequeath, dispose and grant, by one or by many instruments, as aforesaid. All which, and every clause and part thereof, considering it to be expressed and declared here just as if it were here set down and specified word for word, from now henceforth, of our said certain knowledge, proper motion and absolute royal power, which in this matter we will to use and do use, we commend, approve and confirm, and interpose therein and in every clause and part thereof our royal decree and authority; and we command that the whole and every clause and part thereof be valid and be observed towards you

quier ofícios que vos de nos tengays de juro e de heredad, E que de todo lo suso dicho e cada cosa e parte dello que oydia tenedes e posebedes e vos perteneçe aver e tener fasta aqui e tovierdes e poseyades de aqui adelante, asy por merçed e donados como por renunciaciones e compras e troques e canbiosepremutacioneso por otros qualesquier titulos onorosos o latrativos [lucrativos], o en otra qual quier manera o por qual quier cabsa o razon que sea, el qual dicho mayoradgo o mayoradgos podades faser e fagades a toda vuestra voluntad e libre querer e disposucion asy delos dichos vuestros bienes e cosas cntra e cumplida mente syn disminuicion alguna como de qual quier parte o partes dellos para que ynbiolablemente queden los dichos vuestros bienes e qual quier cosa e parte dellos por mayoradgo enel dicho Don Diego Colon vuestro hijo e enlos dichos vuestros hijos e dependientes en quien quisyerdes ha-ser e fisyerdes el dicho mayoradgo o

mayoradgos con las condiciones e limitaciones, cargos, vinculos e firmezas, ynstituciones e sustituciones, modos, reglas e penas e submisiones, que vos quisyerdes e por bien tovierdes e con qualesquier hordenanças e mandas e pactos e convenençias e segunt e por la forma e manera que vos vinculardes e mandardes e dispusyerdes e otorgardes por una o por muchas escrituras como dicho es. Lo qual todo e cada cosa e parte dello aviendolo aqui por expresado e declarado como sy de palabra a palabra aqui fuese puesto e expaçificado nos desde agora para estonçes dela dicha nuestra çierta çiençia e propio motuo e poderio real avsoluto de que enesta parte quercmos usar e usamos lo loamos e aprovamos confirmamos e ynterponemos a ello e a cada cosa e parte dello, nuestro decrecto e abtoridad real e mandamos que vos vala e sea guardado todo e cada cosa e parte dello

ynbiolable mente para agora e para syenpre jamas aun que aquello e cada cosa e parte dello sea contra espreso derecho e contra toda forma e orden del e sea tal e de tal manera que de neçesario se deviese hazer espresa, y especial minçion enesta nuestra carta, e que no pudiese ser comprehendido sola generalidad dello e que sea guardada bien asy e a tan cunplida mente como sy sobre cada cosa e parte e articulo dello oviese nuestra aprovança e liçençia e mandado como e segunt e por la forma que enla dicha vuestra dispusyçion o dispuçiones se contuviere. Lo qual todo es nuestra merçed que se faga asy non enbargante que los otros vuestros hijos herederos e los otros vuestros parientes e debdos e deçendientes e transversales sean agraviados en su legitima e alimentos que les perteneçe e que el dicho Don Diego Colon vuestro hijo e aquel o aquellos a quien fisierdes el dicho mayoradgo o mayoradgos o manda o mejoría lleven o ayan muy grand e notable demasya delo que segund derechos e leyes del fuero les podes dexar en vuestro testamento o postrema voluntad e dar por donadios entre bivos, o en otra qual quier manera los quales dichos bienes que asy yncluiertes e pusierdes enel dicho vuestro mayoradgo o mayoradgos, queremos e es nuestra merçed que sean ynprestibles e ynpartibles para syenpre jamas e que la persona o personas en quien fisierdes el dicho mayoradgo o mayoradgos o que segunt vuestra dispusyçion le oviere o los ovieren non los pueda vender ni dar ni donar ni enajenar ni dividir ni apartar ni los pueda perder ni pierda por ninguna debda que deva ni por otra razon ni cabsa ni por ningund delito ni crimen que cometan salvo crymen lege magestatis, o perduliones o trayçion o crymen de eregia, lo qual queremos e es nuestra merçed que se guarde non enbargante las leyes que se contienen que los mayoradgos non ayan logar aunque se fagan por

yubolable mra (ya si era e pasciende) mas
 an q a cello e mda usi e p a dlo q a dtra
 e p r e d r e h o e d t r a t a d n f o r m i m o r d r
 d e p r a t u l e d t a l m a m i o d u r t e r o r
 d e n r p f i s r o p r e d r . y r o p e a n t m n n o
 e n e s i n p i l a n a . m o n o p u d f r e d r i n
 f i n d u b o l a g e n e r a l i d a d d e l o e o o r a
 f i n d u b i e n o e d t a m p l i d a m e r
 u m o o r p u b i c a d a o r e p a c o n t i n u o
 d e l o o m p o r n p i n i e c l i r t i n m a d l o
 u m o e o r e m i e p o r l a f o r m i p e n l a d f
 o r a d i p n o r e o d r o p n s i a n o n o o r o t n
 v i e r e . l o q u e t o d e d u r a m d q o f o r
 n o n e d l b e n n q l o s e p s d r o s f i s o f y r
 d e r o s e l o s e t r o s d r o s p a r i e t i s e d l b s
 d e n d r o s m t r a n f o r z o r h i s . g r a m d i g a n
 d s m o n l e g t i n s d l h m i o s o l r s p r e n n
 m t e d f d o n d r e o l o v r o g i o m t e l a g l i o s
 m o n d r o s e l o f e m o r a d o e m o r a d o s
 e m a d l o m e o f a l l e m o n y e n m y g r a m d
 e n o t b l e d m o r a d l o o r e m d d r e f o r
 e l r y s d l f m . l r s p o d s d e x a z e n v r o t e s t a
 m e n t o o p o s t f i n i v o l u m i d m d a z p o r d a l a
 d r o s e n g r a b n o s e o n e o r a q u e l q u e r e m m
 l o s q u a l r s o f i s b i e n s o a d y n l m e r d s
 m p l o i e r d s e l o f o v r o m o i n d e o e m o i s
 s o d . q u e r e m o s m e s n p i n d e o r a y n p r e f
 t a b l e s m y n p t a b l e s p a e m p r e l a n d s
 m o l e p a z o m o e o f o m i s e n o m o f o r d d
 e l o f m a y o r a d o m a y o r a d o s o i f o r n a r
 d i n d r o p n o r o . l e o m e r e o l o s l o n d e r e m o
 l o s y n e s t a d e i n d r m d a z m o b n a z m
 e n a l e n a z m d i n d r m o l p a r t a z m l o s
 p u e d a p e r d a z m p i e r d a p o r m o m d b d a
 t o d v a m o r o t r a f l o d m o b o n m
 p o r m o m d d l i t o m a r i m e o r o m e m
 o r e n o r y n e l e g e m a g r e s t a t s . o p d i l o
 o r s o t r a y n o c o r y m e n d e r e g r a . l o
 q u a l o r m o s d l e d n p i n d y o r e d n o
 e n b a r g a n n l a s l y s o r e o t i o n e o l o s m a y
 r a d e d s n o a y a n l o g a z a d u q o r e f a c t u m p o r

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virtue of any patents and rescripts whatsoever that may be granted thereupon; and likewise notwithstanding any laws, statutes, rights, ordinances, usages and customs, precedents and practices, both common and municipal, of the Kings our predecessors, which are or may be contrary to what is aforesaid; and the laws and rights which declare that anything done to the prejudice of a third party, or contrary to good usages and customs, wherein the party considers that he is injured or damaged, is invalid; and the law which declares that prohibitive rights cannot be revoked, and those which declare that patents granted contrary to law, statute and right, ought to be [dis]obeyed and not fulfilled, even though they may contain any derogative causes and other assurances and non-obstantes; and the law which declares that the protection of the party [interested] is promised by natural law, and that it cannot be taken away or revoked, and that the laws, statutes and valid rights cannot be revoked, except by Cortes; or any other matter, effect, quality, force or mystery, which is or may be contrary to what is above stated, even though it be urgent or necessary or mixed, or in any other manner. For of our said certain knowledge, mere motion and absolute royal power, which in this behalf we will to exercise and do exercise, as Kings and Sovereign Lords, acknowledging no superior in things temporal, considering it to be here expressed and declared, just as if it had been here set down and expressed word for word, we dispense therewith and abrogate it; and we derogate, take away and remove, in so far as it touches, appertains and may appertain hereto, from this our patent and from what is contained therein, every obreption and subreption, and every other obstacle or impediment, and we supply any defects or other matters whatsoever of fact, of right, of substance and of solemnity which it may be needful and useful to supply for the validation and corroboration thereof. And we command the most illustrious

virtud de quales quier cartas e rescritos que sobre ello se den, e otrosy non enbargante quales quier leyes e fueros e derechos, ordenamientos, usos e costumbres, estilos e fasañas asy comunes e municipales delos Reyes, nuestros antecesores, que en contrario delo suso dicho sean o ser puedan, ni las leyes e derechos que disen que cosa fecha en perjuizio de tercero o contra los buenos usos e costumbres en que la parte entiende ser leysa e danificada que no vale e la ley que dise que los derechos prohibitivos non pueden ser revocados e las que disen que las cartas dadas contra ley fuero e derecho deven ser [des]obedecidas e non cumplidas, aun que contengan en sy qualcs quier cabsas derogatyvas e otras firmesas e nonobstantias e la ley que dise que la defensa dela parte es prometida de derecho natural e que aquella non puede ser quitada ni rebocada, e que las leyes e fueros e derechos valederos non pueden ser rebocados salvo por Cortes ni otra qualquier cosa, aun que sea urgente

efecto, calidad, vigor, misterio, que en contra delo suso dicho sea o ser pueda o necesario o mixto o en otra qual quier manera. Ca dela dicha nuestra çierta çiençia e proprio motuo e poderio real absoluto de que enesta parte queremos usar e usamos como Reyes e soberanos señores non reconocientes suprior enlo tenporal, aviendolo aqui por expresado y declarado como sy de palabra a palabra aqui fuese puesto e expresado, dispensamos conello e lo abrogamos e derogamos e quitamos e admovemos en quanto a esto toca e atapne e atener puede desta nuestra carta e delo enella contenido toda obrreçion e subrrreçion e todo otro estaculo o enpendimiento e suplimos quales quier defectos, o otras quales quier cosas que de fecho e de derecho de sustançia e de solenidad sean necesarias e provechosas de suplir para validaçion e corroboraçion dello. E mandamos alyllustrisymo

príncipe Don Juan Prince, Don John, our very dear and well-beloved son, and
nuestro muy caro e the Infantes, prelates, dukes, counts, marquises, barons,
muy amado hijo e masters of orders, priors, commanders and sub-command-
alos Ynfantes, pre- ders, wardens of castles and of fortified and unfortified
lados, duques, condes, houses, members of our council, auditors of our chamber and
marqueses, ricos chancery, alcaldes, bailiffs of our household, court and chan-
omes, maestros delas cery, and all governors and assistants, alcaldes, bailiffs,
bordenes, priores, judges, probosts, constables, knights, esquires, officers and
comendadores e sub- good men of all the cities, towns and places of these our
comendadores e alos kingdoms and dominions, who now are and from henceforth
alcaydes delos cas- shall be, to observe towards you this labour, which we con-
tillos e casas fuertes fer upon you, in all and through all, according to what is
e llanas e alos del therein contained, and not to molest you contrary thereto or
nuestro consejo e to any part thereof, at any time, or in any manner, or for
oydores dela nuestra any cause or reason that exists or may exist; and that the
abdiencia e chançil- disposition and dispositions which you shall make of the
leria, alcaldes e al- said entail or entails, legacy or augmentations, according to
guasiles dela nuestra and in the form and manner which may and shall be con-
casa e corte e chan- tained in them and in each of them, shall be performed,
çilleria, e a todos los executed, and put into due and effectual execution, without
coregidores e asys- waiting for or expecting any other patent or mandate from
tentes, alcaldes, al- us thereupon, or a second or third intimation. All which we
guasiles, merinos, command our high chancellor, notaries and other officers who
prebostes, regidores, are at the board of our seals, to deliver to you, and to pass and
cavalleros, escuderos, seal our patent of privilege in the most valid and sufficient
oficiales e omes form which you may require for that purpose, and neither the
buenos de todas las one nor the other of you or them shall do contrary hereto in any
çibdades e villas e manner, under pain of our displeasure and of ten thousand
logares destos nu- maravedis to our chamber upon each one through whom it shall
estros reynos e se- fail to be so performed and fulfilled. And furthermore we com-
ñorios que agora mand the man who shall show you this our patent, to cite you
son e seran de aqui to appear before us in our court, wheresoever we may be, with-
adelante que vos in fifteen days next following the day of citation, under the
guarden esta merced said penalty, under which also we command any notary
que vos fasemos en to
todo e por todo se- llevar a devida execuçon con efecto la dispusyçon e dispusyçiones que fisiertes del dicho ma-
gun que enellas se yoradgo o mayoradgos manda o mejoras segun e por la forma e manera que enellas e en
contiene e que vos cada una dellas se contenga e contuviere syn atender ni esperar para ello otra nuestra carta
no vayan ni pasen ni mandamiento ni segunda ni tercera jusion delo qual todo mandamos al nuestro chançiller
contra ella ni contra mayor e notarios e otros oficiales que estan ala tabla delos nuestros sellos que vos libren e pa-
parte della en tienpo sen e sellen nuestra carta de privilegio la mas firme e bastante que para ello menester ovier-
alguno ni por al- des, e los unos ni los otros non fagades ni fagan ende al por alguna manera so pena dela nu-
guna manera ni por estra merced e de diez mill maravedis para la nuestra camara a cada uno por quien fincare delo
qual quier cabsa ni asy fazer e cunplir e demas mandamos al ome que vos esta carta mostrare que vos enplase que
rason que sea o ser parescades ante nos enla nuestra corte do quier que nos seamos del dia que vos enplazare fasta
pueda e que se cun- quince dias primeros syguientes sola dicha pena sola qual mandamos a qual quier escrivano
plan e esecuten e

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public who shall be summoned for this purpose, to give to the person showing it to him, a certificate thereof signed with his signature, whereby we may know how our command is fulfilled. Given in the city of Burgos, on the twenty-third day of the month of April, in the year of the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and ninety-seven. I the King. I the Queen. I, Ferdinand Alvares of Toledo, Secretary of the King and of the Queen our Lords, caused it to be written by their command. And on the dorse of the said patent was written the following: In form, Roderick Doctor. Registered, Alfonso Peres; and sealed.

The King and the Queen.

Don Christopher Columbus, our Ad-

miral of the Ocean, Viceroy and Governor of the islands which have been discovered in the Indies: We have seen your letters and have had much pleasure in learning what you wrote to us therein, and that God has granted you so good an end to your labour, and guided you favourably in what you have begun, wherein he will be greatly served, and we likewise, and our kingdoms will receive such great advantage. May it please God that, besides serving him in this matter, you may on account thereof receive many favours from us, which, rest assured, will be conferred upon you as your services and labours deserve. And because we will that what you have begun may, by the aid of God, be continued and carried forward, and we are desirous that your coming should be speedy, it being for our service that you should make as much haste as you possibly can in your coming, in order that everything that is needful may be provided in time; and because, as you see, spring has begun, and lest the season for returning thither should pass by; try whether anything can be got ready in Seville or in other

ellas nos escrivistes, y de averos dado Dios tan buen fin en vuestro trabajo, y encaminado bien en lo que començastes, en que el sera mucho servido y nos otros asy mismo, y nuestros reynos recibir tanto provecho. Plasera a Dios que de mas dello que en esto le servis por ello recibires de nos muchas mercedes, las quales creed que se vos baran como vuestros servicios y trabajos lo mereçcn. Y por que queremos que lo que aveys començado con el ayuda de Dios se continue, y lleve adelante, y deseamos que vuestra venida fuese luego, por ende por servicio nuestro que dedes la mayor priesa que pudierdes en vuestra venida porque con tienpo se provea todo lo que es menester, y porque como vedes el verano es entrado, y non se pase el tienpo para la yda alla, ved sy algo se puede aderesçar en Sevilla o en otras

publico que para esto fuere llamado que de ende al que gela mostrare testimonio signado con su signo por que nos sepamos en como se cumple nuestro mandado. Dada en la çibdad de Burgos a veynte e tres dias del mes de abril, año del nacimiento de nuestro Señor Jesu Christo de mill e quatroçientos e noventa e syete años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Yo Fernand Alvares de Toledo Secretario del Rey e dela Reyna nuestros Señores la fise escribir por su mandado e en las espaldas dela dicha carta estava escrito lo syguiente, en forma Rodricus Doctor. Registrada Alonso Peres e selada.

El Rey e la Reyna.

§ DON Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano, Vis Rey e Governador delas yslas que se han descubierto en las Yndias, Vimos vuestras letras y ovimos mucho plaser en saber lo que por

partes para vuestra tornada a la tierra que aveys hallado, y escribid nos luego con ese correo que ha de bolver presto por que luego se provea como se haga en tanto que vos aca venis y tornays de manera que quando bolvierdes de aca este todo aparejado. De Barcelona a treynta dias de março de noventa e tres años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Fernand Alvares, e en las espaldas dezia, Por el Rey e la Reyna, A Don Christoval Colon su Almirante del mar oceano e Vis Rey e Governador delas yslas que se han descubierto en las Yndias.

La Reyna.

§ DON Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano, Viso Rey e Governador delas yslas nueva mente falladas en las Yndias, coneste correo vos enbio un traslado del libro que aca dexastes, el qual ha tardado tanto por que se escriviese secreta mente para que estos que estan aqui de Portugal ni otro alguno non supiese dello, y a cabsa desto por que mas presto

se hiziese, va de dos letras segund vereys. Çierta mente segund lo que eneste negoçio aca se ha platicado y visto cada dia se conoçe ser muy mayor y de grand calidad y sustançia, y que vos nos aveys enello muc' o servido y tenemos de vos grand cargo, y asy esperamos en Dios que demas dello asentado con vos que se ha de fazer e cunplyr muy entera mente que vos reçibireys de nos mucha mas honrra, merçed y acreçentamiento como es rason y lo adeudan vuestros serviçios e mereçimiento. La çarta del marear que aviades de fazer sy es acabada me enbiad luego, y por serviçio mio deys grande priesa en vuestra partida para que aquella con la graçia de nuestro Señor se ponga en obra syn dilacion alguna pues vedes quanto cunple al byen del negoçio, y de todo de alla nos escrivid e fased syenpre saber que de aca de todo lo que oviere vos avisaremos e vos lo faremos saber. Enel negoçio de Portugal non se ha tomado con estos que aqui estan determinacion, aun que yo creo que el Rey se llegara a rason enello, querrya que pensasedes lo contrario porque porello no vos descudeys ni dexey deyr sobre

quarters for your return to the country which you have discovered; and write to us at once by this courier, who has to return quickly, in order that immediate provision may be made for what is to be done while you are coming hence and returning, so that upon your return from here every thing may be in readiness. From Barcelona, the thirtieth day of March, in the year ninety-three. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen, Ferdinand Alvares. And on the dorse it said: By the King and the Queen, to Don Christopher Columbus, their Admiral of the Ocean, and Viceroy and Governor of the islands which have been discovered in the Indies.

The Queen.

Don Christopher Columbus, our Ad-miral of the Ocean, Viceroy and Governor of the islands newly found in the Indies: By this courier I send you a transcript of the book which you left here, which has been delayed so long in order that it might be written secretly, so that neither those who are here from Portugal nor anyone else might know of it; and on this account, in order that it might be done the sooner, it is in two handwritings, as you will perceive. Certainly, according to what has been done and seen until now in this business, it is recognised daily as being very important, and of great worth and weight, and that you have rendered us much service therein, and we are greatly indebted to you; and therefore we trust in God that, besides what has been agreed upon with you, which is to be very thoroughly performed and fulfilled, you will receive from us much further honour, favour and advancement, as is reasonable, and as your services and merits deserve. If the chart of the navigation which you had to prepare is finished, send it to me at once, and for my service make great haste with your departure, in order that, by the grace of our Lord, it may be put into effect without any delay, for you see how important it is to the success of the undertaking; and write and inform us constantly of everything out there, and we will advise and inform you of everything that may take place here. In the affair of Portugal no determination has been taken with those who are here: although I believe that the King will come to terms therein, I would wish you to think the contrary, in order that you may not on that account fail or neglect to act

prudently and with due caution, so that you may not be deceived in any manner whatever. From Barcelona, on the fifth day of the month of September, in the year ninety-three. I the Queen. By command of the Queen, John de la Parra. And on the dorse it said: By the Queen, to Don Christopher Columbus, her Admiral of the Ocean, and Viceroy and Governor of the islands newly discovered in the Indies.

The King and the Queen.

Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean and our Viceroy and Governor of the islands newly discovered in the region of the Indies: We have seen the letters which you sent to us by Antonio de Torres, from which we received much pleasure, and we give many thanks to our Lord God, who has done so much good in having guided you so well in everything. We regard as a great debt and service what you have done and laboured in those parts with such excellent order and foresight that it could not be better; and we have likewise given audience to the said Antonio de Torres, and received all that you sent to us by him; and not less was expected from you considering the extreme goodwill and affection which has been and is found in you for matters of our service. Rely upon it that we hold ourselves to be much served and obliged by you therein, so that we shall confer upon you favours, honour and advancement, as your great services require and deserve. And for that the said Antonio de Torres delayed coming here until now, and we have not seen your letters, which he did not send to us in order that he might bring them himself more securely, and on account of the hurry for the departure of these ships which are now going, and which, directly we knew thereof here, we ordered to be dispatched with a full supply of the things of which you sent a memorial from thence, and as completely as could possibly be done without delaying them; and the same shall be done and carried out in respect of all the rest which he had in charge, at such time and in such manner as he shall declare the same; there is no opportunity now of replying to you as we would, but when he goes, if it please God, we will give you an answer and will command everything requisite therein to be provided. We have been vexed at the things that have been done over there contrary to your wish, which we will command to be thoroughly remedied and punished. In the next voyage that shall be made hither,

[aviso] al recabdo que cunple para que en manera alguna no podays recibir engaño. De Barcelona a cinco dias del mes de setiembre de noventa e tress años. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado dela Reyna, Juan dela Parra. En las espaldas dezia, Por la Reyna, a Don Christoval Colon su Almirante del mar oceano y Viso Rey y Governador delas yslas nueva mente halladas en las Yndias.

El Rey e la Reyna.

§ DON Christoval Colon, nuestro Almirante del mar oceano y nuestro Viso Rey y Governador delas yslas nueva mente halladas en las partes delas Yndias: Vimos las cartas que nos enbiastes con Antonio de Torres con las quales ovimos mucho plaser, y damos muchas gracias a nuestro Señor Dios que tanto bien lo ha fecho, y en averos en todo tan bien guiado. En mucho cargo y servcio vos tenemos lo que alla aveys fecho y travajado con tan buena borden y proveymiento, que no puede ser mejor, y asy mismo oymos al dicho Antonio de

Torres, y recibimos todo lo que conel nos enbiastes, y non se esperaba menos de vos segund la mucha voluntad, y afecion que de vos se ha conoçido y cognosçe en las cosas de nuestro servcio. Sed çierto que nos tenemos de vos por mucho servidos y encargandos en ello para vos faser mercedes y bonrra, y acreçentamiento como vuestros grandes servcios lo requieren y adeudan. Y por que el dicho Antonio de Torres tardo en venir aqui fasta agora, y no avemos visto vuestras cartas, las quales no nos arya enbiado por las traber el a mejor recabdo, y por la priesa dela partida destos navios que agora van, los quales ala ora que lo aqui supimos los mandamos despachar con todo recabdo, delas cosas que de alla enbiastes por memorial, y quanto mas cumplida mente se pudiese faser syn detenerlos, e asy se bara e cumplira en todo lo otro que el traxo acargo al tienpo y como el lo dixere, no ha lugar de vos responder como quisyeramos, pero quando el vaya plasiendo a Dios vos responderemos y mandaremos proveer en todo ello como cunple. Nos avemos avido enojo delas cosas que alla se han fecho fuera de vuestra voluntad, las quales mandaremos bien remediar e castigar. Enel primer viaje que para aca

se biziere, enbiad a Bernal de Pysa, al qual nos enbiamos mandar ponga en obra su venida y enel cargo que el lleva entienda enello la persona que a vos y al padre frey Buyl pareciere en tanto que de aca se provee, que por la priesa dela partida delos dichos navios non se pudo agora proveher enello, pero enel primer viaje, sy plase a Dios, se proveera de tal persona qual conviene para el dicho cargo. De Medina del Campo a treze de Abril de noventa e quatro. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Juan dela Parra. E en las espaldas desya, Por el Rey e por la Reyna, A Don Christoval Colon su Almirante del mar oceano, su Viso Rey e Governador en las ysslas nueva mente falladas en las partes delas Yndias.

El Rey e la Reyna. DON Christoval Colon, nuestro Almirante mayor delas ysslas delas Yndias, Vimos vuestrasletras e memoriales que nos enbiastes con Torres, y avemos avido mucho plaser

de saber todo lo que por ellas nos escrivistes, y damos muchas gracias a nuestro Señor por todo ello, por que esperamos que con su ayuda este negocio vuestro sea cabsa que nuestra santa fe catolica sea mucho mas acrecentada. E una delas principales cosas por que esto nos ha plasydo tanto es por ser ynventada, principiada e avida por vuestra mano, trabajo e yndustria, y pareçe nos que todo lo que al principio nos dixistes que se podria alcançar por la mayor parte todo ha salido cierto como sy lo ovierades visto antes que nos lo dixesedes. Esperança tenemos en Dios que enlo que queda por saber asy se continuara de que por ello vos quedamos en mucho cargo para

send Bernal de Pysa, to whom we are sending an order to arrange his coming, and let some person who may seem suitable to you and to Father Friar Buyl attend to the charge which he bears until it is filled up from here, since, owing to the hurry for the departure of the said ships, it has not now been possible to fill it up; but in the next voyage, if it please God, a person suitable for the said charge shall be appointed. From Medina del Campo, on the thirteenth of April, in ninety-four. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen, Juan de la Parra. And on the dorse it said: By the King and by the Queen, to Don Christopher Columbus, their Admiral of the Ocean, and their Viceroy and Governor in the islands newly discovered in the region of the Indies.

The King and the Queen.

Don Christopher Columbus, our high

Admiral of the islands of the Indies: We have seen your letters and memorials which you sent to us by Torres, and we have had much pleasure in learning all that you wrote to us therein, and we give many thanks to our Lord for all of it, since we hope that, with his help, this your undertaking will be the means whereby our holy catholic faith will be much more increased. And one of the principal reasons why this has pleased us so much is because it has been invented, commenced and obtained by your hand, labour and industry; and it seems to us that of all that you told us at the beginning might happen, everything has, for the most part, occurred exactly as if you had seen it before telling us. We trust in God that in what remains to be known it will continue thus. For all this we are under much obligation to you, to

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confer labours upon you in such a manner that you will be very well satisfied. And having seen all that you wrote to us, although you describe all things so fully that it is a great joy and delight to read them, still we would desire somewhat further, [namely] that you should write to us in such a manner that we may know how many islands have been discovered up to this time, and what is the name of each of those to which you have given names; for although you name some in your letters, they are not all; and what are the names which the others are called by the Indians; and how far it is from one to the other; and all that you have found in each of them, and what they say there is in them; and what has been obtained from the crops which have been sown since you went there, for the season is already past at which all the crops sown ought to be gathered in. And chiefly we desire to know what all the seasons of the year are like over there, in each month separately, for it seems to us that from what you say there is a great difference between the seasons there and those here. Some are desirous that it should be stated whether there are two winters and two summers there in one year. Write the whole to us for our service, and send us the greatest number of falcons that can be sent from thence, and of all the birds that are found there and can be obtained, for we should like to see them all. And in regard to the things which you sent to us by a memorial as needful to be provided and despatched from hence, we commanded them all to be provided, as you will learn from the said Torres, and will see by what he takes with him. We should like, if it seem good to you, both in order to hear from you and from all the people who are there, and also in order that you might be constantly provided with whatever may be requisite, that one caravel should come from thence, and another go from hence, every month, since the affairs of Portugal are arranged, and vessels will be able to go and come in safety. Look to this, and if it should appear to you that it ought to be done, do it on your part, and write to us in what manner you think the despatch should be made from hence. And as touching the conduct which you ought to observe there with the people you have there, we approve of what you have begun up to this time, and you ought to continue in the same course, giving them the utmost satisfaction possible, but not giving them any opportunity to transgress in any wise in the things which they ought to perform and which you will command them on our behalf. And respecting the settlement which you have made, there is no one who can give a certain rule therein, or correct anything from hence, for were we there present we should take your counsel and opinion therein, and how much more being absent? Therefore we refer it to you. To all the other matters

vos fazer mercedes de manera que vos seays muy bien contento. Y visto todo lo que nos escrivistes como quiera que asaz larga mente dezis todas las cosas que es mucho gozo e alegria lerlas, pero algo mas querriamos que nos escriviesedes asy en que sepamos quantas yslas fasta aqui se han fallado, y alas que aveys puesto nonbres que nonbre tiegne cada una, por que aun que nonbrays algunas en vuestras cartas non son todas, y alas otras los nonbres que les llaman los Yndios e quanto ay de una a otra e todo lo que aveys fallado en cada una dellas, y lo que disen que ay enellas, y enlo que se ha sembrado despues que alla fuistes que se ha auido pues ya es pasado el tienpo que todas las cosas sembradas se han de coger. Y principal mente deseamos saber todos los tienpos del año que tales son alla en cada mes por sy, por que a nos parece que enlo que desis que ay alla mucha diferençia en los tienpos a los de aca, algunos quieren dezir sy en un año ay alla dos ynbiernos

y dos veranos. Todo nos lo escrivid por serviçio nuestro e enbiad nos todos los mas alcones que dealla se pudieren enbiar, y de todas las aves que alla ay, y se podyeren aver, por que querriamos las ver todas. Y quanto alas cosas que nos enbiastes por un memorial que se proveycse, y enbiase de aca, todas las mandamos proveer como del dicho Torres sabreys, y vereys por lo que el lleva. Querriamos sy os paresçe que asy para saber de vos y de toda la gente que alla esta como para que cada dia podiesedes ser proveydos dello que fuese menester que cada mes viniese una caravela de alla, y de aca fuese otra, pues que las cosas de Portugal estan asentadas, y los navios podran yr e venir segura mente. Vedlo, y sy os paresçiere que se deve faser fasedlo vos, y escrivid nos la manera que vos paresçiere que se deve enbiar de aca. Y enlo que toca ala forma que alla deveys tener conla gente que alla teneys bien nos paresçe lo que fasta agora aveys principiado, y asy lo deveys continuar dandoles el mas contentamiento que se pueda pero no dandoles logar que exçedan en cosa alguna enlas cosas que devieren faser, y vos les mandardes de nuestra parte. Y quanto ala poblaçion que fisystes en aquello no ay quien pueda dar regla çierta ni emendar cosa alguna desde aca, por que alla estariamos presentes y tomaríamos vuestro consejo y parecer enello, quanto mas en absençia por eso a vos lo remitimos. A todas las otras cosas

*contenidas en el memorial que traxo el dicho Torres en las margenes del va respondido lo que convyno que vos supiesedes la respuesta, a aquello nos remitimos. Y quanto alas cosas con Portugal, aca se tomo cierto asyento con sus enbaxadores que nos parecia que hera mas syn ynconvini-
 ente, y por que dello seays bien ynformado larga mente vos enbiamos el traslado delos Capitulos que sobre ello se hizieron e por eso aqui non conviene alargar enello sy no que vos mandamos y encargamos que aquello guardeys entera mente e fagays que por todos sea guardado asy como en los capitulos se contiene. Y en lo dela Raya o limite que se ha de faser por que nos paresce cosa muy dificultosa, y de mucho saber y con fiança, querryamos sy ser pudiese que vos os ballasedes en ello, y la fiziesedes con los otros que por parte del Rey de Portugal en ello han de entender. Y sy ay mucha dificultad en vuestra yda a esto o podria traver algun ynconvini-
 ente en lo que ende estays ved sy vuestro hermano o*

contained in the memorial brought by the said Torres, there is given in the margins thereof the reply which it was convenient that you should understand as the answer, and to refer you thereto. And respecting the disputes with Portugal, a certain convention has been here agreed upon with her ambassadors, which seemed to us to be most free from disadvantage; and in order that you may be well informed thereof at large, we send you a transcript of the articles which were drawn up thereupon, and consequently it is not needful to dilate upon it here, except that we command and charge you to observe it fully, and to cause it to be observed by every one, just as it is contained in the articles. And in the matter of the boundary or limit which has to be made, because it appears to us a very difficult matter, and one requiring much knowledge and trustiness, we would wish, if it were possible, that you should be present there, and that you should make it with the others who are to act therein on behalf of the King of Portugal. And should there be much difficulty in your going on this business, or should it entail any inconvenience in what you are there for, see if you have your brother or some other person out there who may be acquainted with it, give them the fullest information in writing, and by word of mouth, and even by drawings, and by every other means by which they can best be instructed, and send them hither to us at once, by the first caravels that come; so that we may send others from hence with them against the time which is agreed upon. And whether you are to go on this business or not, write to us very fully all that you know about this matter, and what you may think ought to be done, for our information, and in order that every precaution may be taken in fulfilment of our service; and act in such wise that your letters and the persons whom you have to send may arrive soon, in order that they may be able to repair to the place where the boundary has to be made, before the expiration of the time that we have agreed upon with the King of Portugal, as you will see by the capitulation. From Segovia, on the sixteenth of August, in ninety-four. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen, Ferdinand Alvares. And on the dorse it said: By the King and the Queen, to Don Christopher Columbus, their High Admiral of the islands of the Indies.

Don Ferdinand and Donna Isabella, *by the grace of God King and*

otro alguno teneyas ende que lo sepan ynformaldos muy byen por escrito y por palabra y aun por pintura, y por todas las maneras que mejor podieren ser ynformados, y enbiad nos los aca luego con las primeras caravelas que vinieren por que con ellos enbiaremos otros de aca para el tienpo que esta asentado. Y quier ayays vos deyr a esto o non, escrivid nos muy larga mente todo loque en esto supierdes y a vos pareciere que se deve bazer para nuestra enformacion y para que en todo se provea como cunple a nuestro servicio, y bazed de manera que vuestras cartas, y las que aveys de enbiar vengan presto porque puedan bolver a donde se ha de faser la Raya antes que se cumpla el tienpo que tenemos asentado con el Rey de Portugal, como vereys por la capitulacion. De Segovia, a diez e seys de Agosto de noventa e quatro. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Fernand Alvares. E en las espaldas dezia, Por el Rey e la Reyna, A Don Christoval Colon su Almirante mayor delas yslas delas Yndias.

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Queen of Castile, Leon, Aragon, Sicily, Granada, Toledo, Valencia, Galicia, Majorca, Seville, Sardinia, Cordoba, Corsica, Murcia, Jaen, the Algarves, Algeciras, Gibraltar and the Canary Islands, Count and Countess of Barcelona, and Lords of Biscay and Molina, Dukes of Athens and Neopatria, Counts of Roussillon and Cerdagne, Marquises of Oristano and Goziano: To you, Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of our islands and mainland, which by our command have been discovered and are to be discovered in the Ocean, in the region of the Indies, and to you, Don John de Fonseca, Archdeacon of Seville, [members] of our Council, health and grace. Know ye that we have resolved to command that a certain fleet be made of some ships and foists, for the purpose of being sent to the said Indies, as well to maintain the lordship and occupation of the said islands and mainland, whereof possession has been taken in our name, as to discover others. And whereas in order to form and equip the said fleet, and to furnish it with all things necessary and sufficient, it is requisite that we should nominate and depute persons to attend thereto and put it in execution; [therefore,] trusting in you, as persons who will have regard to our service and will perform well, faithfully and diligently whatever we shall command and recommend to you, we do command this our patent to be given to you to that effect; whereby we command you to go to the cities of Seville and Cadiz, and any other cities, towns, places and seaports of their archbishopric and bishopric, wherever you may think proper, and cause to be freighted and purchased, and purchase and freight, any ships, vessels, carabels and foists which you may see and consider to be suitable and convenient for the said fleet, from any person or persons. And if you shall be unable to obtain them by this means, you shall be able to seize and may seize them, although they may be freighted to any persons whomsoever, as far as possible without doing injury; and we command the owners of the said vessels, ships, foists and carabels to give and deliver them to you, or

Reyna de Castilla, de Leon, de Aragon, de Sicilia, de Granada, de Toledo, de Valencia, de Gallisia, de Mallorcas, de Sevilla, de Cerdeña, de Cordova, de Corçega, de Murcia, de Jaben, delos Algarves, de Algesira, de Gibraltar e delas yslas de Canaria, Conde e Condesa de Barcelona e Señores de Viscaya e de Molina, Duques de Atenas e de Neopatria, Condes de Rusellon e de Çerdania, Marqueses de Oristan e de Goçiano, a vos Don Christoval Colon, nuestro Almirante de las nuestras yslas e tierra firme que por nuestro mandado se han descubierto e se han de descubrir en el mar oceano en la parte delas Yndias e a vos Don Juan de Fonseca Arçediano de Sevilla del nuestro consejo, salud e gracia. Sepades que nos avemos acordado de mandar que se faga çierta armada de algunos navios e fustas para enbiar alas dichas Yndias, asy para señorear e poseber las dichas yslas e tierra firme de que en nuestro nonbre estatomada posesyon como para descubrir otras. Y porque para

faser y peltrechar la dicha armada y la proveer de todas las cosas aella neçesarias e cunplideras es neçesario que nos nonbremos e diputemos personas que enello entiendan e lo pongan en obra, Confiando de vos otros que soys tales que guardareys nuestro serviçio e bien e fiel e diligente mente fareys lo que por nos vos fuere mandado e encomendado, mandamos dar esta nuestra carta para vos otros en la dicha rason por la qual vos mandamos que vades alas çibdades de Sevilla e Caliz e otras qual quier çibdades e villas e logares e puertos de mar de su arçobispado e obispado donde entendierdes que cunple e fagays fletar e comprar e conpreys e fleteys quales quier navios e naos e caravelas e fustas que vierdes e entendierdes que cunplen e son convinientes para la dicha armada de quales quier persona o personas. E sy por esta vya non las pudierdes aver las podades tomar e tomedes aunque esten fletados a quales quier personas, lo mas syn daño que ser pudiere e mandamos alos dueños delas dichas naos e navios e fustas e caravelas que vos las den e entreguen o

vendan o aflen, pagandoles el precio que por vos otros fueren comprados o fletados o que ovieren de aver segund los contratos e asyentos que con vos otros bizieren e asentaren, e asy compradas e fletadas las dichas naos e navios e caravelas e fustas, las podades armar e pertrechar e basteçer de armas e p[er]trechos e basteçays delas armas e pertrechos e bastimentos e tiros de polvora e gentes, e marineros e aparejo de marear e oficiales que menester fuere e vos otros vierdes e entendierdes que cumple, lo qual podades tomar o tomedes de quales quier logares e partes [e] navios donde los fallardes pagando alos dueños dellos los precios rasonables que por ellos deven aver. E asy mismo podades costrenir e apremiar a quales quier oficiales de quales quier ofiçios que son convinientes para yr en la dicha armada e entendierdes que cumple que vayan en ella, alos quales sera pagado el sueldo e salario rasonable que por ello devan aver. E para que çerca dello podades otorgar e otorguedes qual quier seguridad en nuestro nonbre que convenga e menester sea para lo qual todo que dicho es e para que çerca dello podades faser e fagades todas las prendas, premias, prisyones e esecuciones e remates e vençiones de bienes que convengan e menester sean, con todas sus ynçidencias e dependencias, anexidades e conexidades vos damos poder conplido por esta nuestra carta, pero es nuestra merçed e mandamos que de todo lo suso dicho se tenga rason e cuenta para quando nos la quysyeremos mandar ver que se asyente en los nuestros libros que tienen los nuestros contadores mayores, e que qual quier cosa delas suso dichas tocante ala dicha armada se faga e pase ante Juan de Soria Secretario del Príncipe Don Juan nuestro muy caro e muy amado hijo que va por lugar teniente delos dichos nuestros contadores mayores, e con su poder e non en otra manera alguna. E otrosy es nuestra merçed e mandamos que todo lo que toca alas conpras de armas e peltrechos e mantenimiento e otras cosas e flete de navios e otros gastos dela dicha armada, se faga e pase ante el lugar teniente de nuestro escrivano que agora nonbramos para esta armada, junta mente conel dicho Juan de Soria teniente de nuestros contadores mayores. E asy mismo por que enel sueldo que se oviere de pagar ala gente que fuere ala dicha armada non aya frabde ni encubierta alguna es nuestra merçed

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that the appointments and musters of the said men be made before the deputy of our said scrivener, and that upon his certificate, signed with his name, the said Admiral and Don John de Fonseca may make out the warrant for all that is abovesaid; and let the said deputy of our chief accountants sign the said warrants, that he may keep the reckoning and account thereof, in such wise that whoever may have to pay it, may not pay anything without letter or schedule of the said Admiral and Don John de Fonseca, signed by the said deputy of our chief accountants. And if, in order to perform and fulfil and put in effect what is abovesaid, or any part thereof, you shall have need of support and aid, by this our said patent we command all councillors, assistants, governors, alcaldes, bailiffs, constables, knights, esquires, officers and worthy men, and masters of ships and foists, and any other persons who shall be called upon for that purpose, to give it and cause it to be given to you fully and completely; and not to place or consent to place any impediment or obstacle to you therein or in any part thereof, under pain of our displeasure, and of deprivation of offices, and of confiscation of all his property, to every one of them who shall do the contrary. And further we command the man who shall show you this our patent to cite you to appear before us in our court, wherever we may be, within fifteen days next following the day of citation, under the said penalty; under which we command any public scrivener who shall be summoned for that purpose to give to the man who shall exhibit it to you a certificate thereof, signed with his sign, whereby we may know how our command is fulfilled. Given in the city of Barcelona, on the twenty-fourth day of the month of May, in the year of the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ one thousand four hundred and ninety-three. I the King. I the Queen. I, Ferdinand Alvarez of Toledo, Secretary of the King and of the Queen our Lords, caused it to be written by their command. And on the dorse it said: Registered in form, Rodrick Doctor. Peter Gutierrez, Chancellor; and sealed.

que las presentaciones e alardes dela dicha gente se faga[n] ante el teniente del dicho nuestro escrivano e que por fe suya firmada de su nonbre fagan la librança de todo lo suso dicho, los dichos Almirante e Don Juan de Fonseca e el dicho teniente de nuestros contadores mayores firme en los dichos libramientos por que el tenga la rason e cuenta dellos por manera que el que lo oviere de pagar non pague cosa alguna syn carta o nomina de los dichos Almirante e Don Juan de Fonseca e firmada del dicho teniente de nuestros contadores mayores. E sy para faser e cumplir e poner en obra lo suso dicho o qual quier parte dello menester ovierdes fabor e ayuda por esta dicha nuestra carta mandamos a quales quier congejos, asystentes, corregidores, alcaldes, alguasiles, regidores, cavalleros, escuderos, oficiales e omes buenos e maestros de navios e fustas e otras quales quier personas que para ello fueren requeridos que vos lo den e fagan dar por bien e conplida mente e que enello ni en parte dello embargo ni contrario alguno

And [the foregoing] having been thus

presented before the said Alcaldes, in the manner that is aforesaid, the said Lord Admiral abovesaid declared to the said Alcaldes that forasmuch as

vos non pongan ni consyentan poner so pena dela nuestra merced e de privaçion delos ofiçios e de confiscaçion de todos sus bienes a cada uno dellos que lo contrario hisyere. E de mas mandamos al ome que vos esta nuestra carta mostrare que vos enplase que parescades ante nos enla nuestra corte do quier que nos seamos del dia que vos enplasare fasta quinse dias primeros syguientes sola dicha pena sola qual mandamos a qual quier escrivano publico que para esto fuere llamado que de ende al que vos la mostrare testimonio sygnado con su sygno por que nos sepamos en como se cunple nuestro mandado. Dada enla çibdad de Barçelona, a veynte e quatro dias del mess de mayo año del naçimiento de nuestro Señor Jesu Christo de mill e quatroçientos e noventa e tres años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Yo Fernand Alvarez de Toledo Secrctario del Rey e dela Reyna nuestros Señores la fise escrivir por su mandado. E en las espaldas dezia, Registrada en forma. Rodricus Doctor. Pero Gutierrez Chançiller, e sellada.

E ASY presentadas ante los dichos alcaldes enla manera que dicha es dixo alos dichos alcaldes el dicho Señor Almirante suso dicho que por quanto

el ha menester de llevar e presentar los dichos previllejos e cédulas e cartas oreginales de suso encorporadas a muchas partes e logares do a su derecho convenia e que se temia e rezelava que llevandolas o presentandolas que sele perdryan o rasgarian o acasceria enellas o en alguna dellas algund caso fortituyto [fortuyto] e que por evitar los dichos ynconvinientes pedia e pidio a los dichos alcaldes e a cada uno dellos que amosados junta mente vieses e exsaminasen los dichos previllejos e cartas e cédulas que ante ellos presentava e mandase[n] a mi el dicho escrivano que sacase o fiziese sacar un traslado o dos o mas los que menester oviese, enel qual dicho traslado o traslados ellos ynterpusyesen su abtoridad e decrecto judicial para que faga entera fe doquier que pareciere, asy como valen e fassen fe los dichos previllejos e cartas e cédulas oreginales suso dichos e firmados de sus nonbres e otrosy firmados e signados de mi el dicho escrivano gelos mandase[n] dar para guarda de su derecho sobre lo qual dixo que sy neçesario hera ynplorava e ynploro el noble ofiçio delos dichos alcaldes. [E luego los dichos alcaldes] visto el dicho pedimiento tomaron las dichas cartas e previllejos e cédulas oreginales en sus manos e leyeron por ellas ellos e cada uno dellos e por que las vieron sanas e non rotas ni canceladas, ni en alguna parte sospechosas por que de derecho non deviesen valer antes careçientes de todo viçio e suspiciõ dixerõ anbos junta mente que mandavan e mandaron a mi el dicho escrivano que sacase o fiziese sacar delas dichas cartas e previllejos e cédulas un traslado o dos o mas los que el dicho Señor Almirante me pidiese e oviese menester e gelos diese e entregase firmados de sus nonbres e firmados e sinados de mi el dicho escrivano a los quales e a cada uno dellos ellos e cada uno dellos ynterponian e ynterpusyeron su abtoridad e decrecto para que valiesen e fisyesen fe en juizio e fuera del en todo tienpo e logar do pareçiesen bien asy e a tan cunplida mente como valdryan e farian fe las dichas cartas e previllejos e cédulas oreginal mente pareciendo. E de todo esto como paso

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the said Lord Admiral asked me to give him a certificate and testimony for the protection of his right; and I gave him thereof this one which [is signed by the said Alcaldes and each of them, and] bears the signature and sign of me, the said public scrivener. And it was made, and extracted, and corrected, and collated with the said originals, and with each one of them, in the said city of Seville, on the said day, and month, and year abovesaid.

Peter Ruiz,
Alcalde.

Stephen de la
Roca, Alcalde.

I, Gomes Nieto, scrivener, of Seville, was present at the authorisation and mandate of the said Alcaldes, and am witness. [Sign.]

I, Alfonso Lucas, scrivener, of Seville, was present at the said authorisation and mandate of the said Alcaldes, and am witness. [Sign.]

And I, Martin Rodriguez, public scrivener, of Seville, was present at the said authorisation, and have made here my sign [], and am witness.

Yo Gomes Nieto escrivano de Sevilla fuy presente ala abtoridad e mandamiento delos dichos Alcaldes e so testigo. [Signo.]

Yo Alfonso Lucas escrivano de Sevilla fuy presente ala dicha abtoridad e mandamiento delos dichos Alcaldes e so testigo. [Signo.]

E yo Martin Rodrigues escrivano publico de Sevilla fuy presente ala dicha abturidad c fis aqui mio sig [] no e so testigo.

el dicho Señor Almirante dixo que gelo diese por fe e testimonio para guarda de su derecho e yo dile ende este el qual va [firmado de los dichos alcaldes e de cada uno dellos, e] firmado e signado de mi el dicho escrivano publico. E fue fecho e sacado e corregido e conçertado conlos dichos originales e con cada uno dellos en la dicha çibdad de Sevilla enel dicho dya e mess e año suso dicho.

*Pero Rruiz
Alcalde.*

*Stevan dela
Roca, Alcalde.*

IN DEI NOMINE
 AMEN. Este es
 traslado, bien y fiel-
 mente sacado, de una
 escriptura escripta
 en pergamino de
 cuero en lengua la-
 tina e sellada con un
 sello de cera colo-
 rada, metido en una
 caxa de madera,
 pendiente en una
 cinta de seda verde
 e signada e firmada
 de cierto notario
 apostolico, segund
 por ella parescia.
 El tenor dela qual
 de verbo ad verbum
 es este que se sigue.
 PETRUS GARSIE,
 Dei et apostolice se-
 dis gratia Episcopus
 Barchinonensis Re-
 gius auditor et con-
 siliarius, universis
 et singulis presentes
 literas sive presens
 publicum instrumen-
 tum visuris lecturis
 pariter et audituris,
 Salutem in domino
 sempiternam et pro-
 speros ad voca [vota]
 succesus vobis et
 cuilibet vestrum noc-
 tum facimus per
 presentes quod nos
 in nostris manibus
 habuimus, tenuimus,
 palpavimus, vidimus
 et diligenter inspexi-
 mus, Sanctissimi in
 Christo patris et
 domini nostri domini Alexandri divina providentia pape Sexti literas apostolicas, eius vera
 bulla plumbea in filiis sericiis rubei croceique coloris more Romane Curie impendente, sanas
 siquidem et integras non viciatas non cancellatas, nec in aliqua sui parte suspectas, sed omni-
 moda suspitione carentes, ut in eis apparebat. Quarum quidem literarum tenor et continentia de
 verbo ad verbum, sequitur et est talis. ALEXANDER, Episcopus servus servorum Dei, Carissimo
 in Christo filio, Ferdinando Regi, et Charissime in Christo filie Elisabeth Regine Castelle, Legionis,
 Aragonum, Sicilie, Granatæ illustribus, Salutem, et apostolicam benedictionem. Inter cetera divine
 magestati bene placita opera et cordis nostri desiderabilia, illud proffeto potissimum existit ut

In the name of God. Amen. This is a
 transcript well and faithfully extracted from a writing
 written on parchment of skin in the Latin language, and
 sealed with a seal of coloured wax, placed in a wooden box,
 suspended by a riband of green silk, and bearing the sign
 and signature of a certain Notary Apostolic, as appeared
 thereby. The tenor of which, word for word, is as follows:
PETER GARSIA, by the grace of God
 and of the Apostolic See, Bishop of Barcelona, Royal
 Auditor and Councillor, to all and singular who shall see,
 and likewise read and hear the present letters or the present
 public instrument, everlasting health in the Lord and pros-
 perous issues to your desires. To you and to each of you
 we make known by these presents that we have had in our
 hands, held, handled, seen and diligently inspected the Apos-
 tolic Letters of our most Holy Father and Lord in Christ,
 the Lord Alexander the Sixth, by divine providence Pope,
 with his true bull of lead hanging therefrom in threads of
 red and saffron coloured silk, in the manner of the Roman
 Court, truly perfect and entire, and not bitiated, or cancelled
 or in any part thereof suspicious, but free from all kind of
 suspicion, as therein appeared. Of which same letters the
 tenor and contents follow, word for word, and are these:
ALEXANDER THE BISHOP,
 Servant of the Servants of God, to his very dear son in
 Christ Ferdinand and his very dear daughter in Christ Isa-
 bella, the illustrious King and Queen of Castile, Leon, Ara-
 gon, Sicily and Granada, health and Apostolic benediction.
 Among other works well pleasing to the Divine Majesty
 and desired of our heart, assuredly the foremost is that

[The following amended text of the Bull, based on that in the "Bullarum . . . Collectio,"

tom. iii. p. 233, Romæ, 1743, fol., is given in order to avoid crowding

the transliteration with corrections.]

ALEXANDER Episcopus, servus servorum ciliæ et Granatæ, illustribus, Salutem et Apo-
 Dei, carissimo in Christo filio Ferdinando stolicam benedictionem. Inter cetera Divinæ
 Regi, et carissimæ in Christo filiæ Elisabeth majestati beneplacita opera, et cordis nostri de-
 Regina Castellæ, Legionis, Aragonum, Si- siderabilia, illud profecto potissimum existit, ut

Inde noie Amen
 Este es traslado: Bien y fiel mente Sacado. de vna
 escriptura escripta en pergumjno de Cuero en lengua
 latina & Sellada con vn sello de cera colorada. me-
 tido en vna caja de madera. pendiente en vna cinta
 de Seda verde & signada & firmada de cierto
 notario apostolico. Segund por ella parescia. El
 tenor dela qual de verbo ad uerbu es este q se

Signe: **Petrus garcie.** Dei &
 apostolice sedis gra Eps Barchinon Regius audita
 & consiliarius. Vniuersis & singlis pntes lras Sine
 pns publicu Instrumentum uisuris lecturis pariter
 & audituris. Satm in dno sempiternam & prosperos
 ad uoca succesus uob & cuilibet vrum noctum facim
 p pntes quod nos in nris manibus habuimus tenuim
 palpanim ujdimus & diligenter inspeximus. Sancti
 in xpo pris & domini nri dni. Alexandri diuina
 prouidentia pape Sexti lras aplicas. eius vera bulla
 plumbea in filiis sicijs Rubei croceiq coloris more
 Romane Curie Impend. Sanas siquide & integrs
 no viciatas no cancellatas. nec in aliq sui parte sus-
 pectas. Sz omnimoda suspetioe Carentes. ut in eis
 apparebat. Quare quid lraz tenor & continetia
 de uerbo ad uerbum. Segtur & est talis. **Alexa**

der. Eps seruus suox dei. Car^{mo}. In x filio.
 fernando Regi. & Char^{mo} in x filie elisabeth
 Regine Castelle legionis aragonu sicilie granate
 illustribus. Satm & apostolicam Ben. Inter cetera
 diuine magestatj bene placita opera & cordis nri
 desiderabilia. Illud pffeto potissimu existit ut

fides catholica & sana Religio nris prestim temporibus ex
altetur & ubiq; amplietur & dilatetur animarq; salus
paretur ac barbare nationes deprimantur & ad fidem
reducantur. Unde cum ad hanc sacram petri sedem divina
favente clementia meritis licet Imperibus evocati fuimus Co
noscentes vos tanq; veros Catholicos Reges & principes
quales semp fuisse novimus & a nobis pclare gesta toti
pene iam orbi notissima demonstrant ne dud id exoptare
sibi cognatu studio & diligentia nullis laboribus nullis
impensis nullisq; parcendo pectis etiam propriu sanguinez
effundendo efficere ac onem animu vru omesq; Cognat
ad hoc iam dud dedicasse. Quemadmodum recuperatio regni
granate Atiramide Sarraceno & odiernis tporibus per
vos cum tanta diuini nominis gloria facta testatur digne
ducimur no muto & debemus illa uobis etiam sponte
& fauorabile concedere perque hmoi sanctu & laudabile
ac in mortali deo acceptum propositum in dies feruentior
animo ad ipsius dei onorem & impij & anj propagationem
prosequi valeatis. Sane accepim qd uos qui dud aro
pposuerate aliqs insulas & terras firmas Remotas &
in cognitatas ac p alios hacten no reptas qere & in venire
Ut illar in colas & habitatores ad colend Redemptore
mru & fid catholicam proffitend reduceretis hactenus
in expugnatione & recuperatione ipsius Regni granate ptim
occupati hmoi sanctu & laudabile ppositum vrum ad
optatum finem pducere nequistis. s; tanq; sicut dno
placuit regno predicto recuperato. Volentes desiderium
ad imple vrum dilectum filium Christoforu Colon
virum itaq; & plurimu comendand ac tanto ne
gotio aptu cum nauionjs & hominibus ad similia

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the Catholic faith and Christian religion, particularly in our own time, may be exalted, and may be spread and diffused in every direction, and that the health of souls may be cared for, and barbarous nations be subdued and brought to the said faith. Wherefore We, upon being called by the labour of divine clemency, although our merits were insufficient, to this sacred seat of Peter, recognising that you, as true Catholic Kings and Princes (which we know you have always been, and as your illustrious actions, already well known almost to the whole world, show you to be), are not only desirous of the same, but prosecute it by every effort, endeavour and diligence, sparing no labours, costs and dangers, and even shedding your own blood; and that for some time past you have dedicated all your mind and all your efforts to this end, as is clearly shown by the recovery of the kingdom of Granada from the tyranny of the Saracens, which you recently effected with so much glory to the divine name; deem it fitting and not undeserved, as we ought even spontaneously and graciously, to grant you those things by which you may be enabled constantly with more fervent zeal to prosecute a design so holy and praiseworthy, and acceptable to the eternal God, to the honour of God and the propagation of the Christian dominion. We heard, indeed, that although you had some time ago designed in your minds to seek for and discover some islands and mainlands, remote and unknown, and hitherto undiscovered by others, in order to induce the natives and inhabitants thereof to worship our Redeemer and to profess the Catholic faith, yet having been hitherto chiefly occupied in the conquest and recovery of the same kingdom of Granada, you were unable to carry out such your holy and laudable design to its desired end; but at length, as it has pleased the Lord, having recovered the aforesaid kingdom, and wishing to fulfil your desire, you appointed [our] beloved son Christopher Columbus, a man particularly worthy and much to be commended, and well suited to so great an undertaking, with vessels and men equipped for such purposes,

fides catholica Christiana religio nostris presertim temporibus exaltetur et ubilibet ampliatur et dilatetur animarumque salus procuretur, ac barbare nationes de primantur et ad fidem ipsam reducantur. Unde cum ad hanc sacram Petri sedem divina favente clementia meritis licet imparibus evocati fuimus conoscentes vos tanquam veros Catholicos Reges et principes quales semper fuisse novimus et a nobis preclare gesta toti pene jam orbi notissima de monstrant ne dum id exoptare sed omni cognatu studio et diligentia nullis laboribus nullis impensis nullisque parcendo periculis etiam proprium sanguinem effundendo efficere ac omnem animum vestrum

omnesque cognatus ad hoc jam dudum dedicasse. Quemadmodum recuperatio regni Granate a tyrannide Saraceno et odiernis temporibus per vos cum tanta divini nominis gloria facta testatur digne ducimur non merito et debemus illa vobis etiam sponte et favorabiliter concedere perque huiusmodi sanctum et laudabile ac in mortali Deo acceptum propositum in dies ferventiori animo ad ipsius Dei onorem et imperii christiani propagationem prosequi valeatis. Sane accepimus quod vos qui dudum animo proposueratis aliquas insulas et terras firmas remotas et in cognitatas ac per alios hactenus non reptas querere et in venire ut illarum in colas et habitatores ad colendum Redemptorem nostrum et fidem catholicam profitendum reduceretis hactenus in expugnatione et recuperatione ipsius regni Granate plurimum occupati huiusmodi sanctum et laudabile propositum vestrum ad optatum finem perducere nequivistis, sed tandem sicut Domino placuit regno predicto recuperato, volentes desiderium ad implere vestrum, dilectum filium Christoforum Colon virum utaque et plurimum comendandum ac tanto negotio aptum cum navigiis et hominibus ad similia

fides Catholica, Christiana religio, nostris presertim temporibus exaltetur, ac ubilibet ampliatur et dilatetur, animarumque salus procuretur, ac barbaricæ nationes deprimantur et ad fidem ipsam reducantur. Unde cum ad hanc sacram Petri Sedem Divina favente clementia (meritis licet imparibus) evocati fuimus, cognoscentes vos tanquam veros Catholicos Reges et Principes, quales semper fuisse novimus, et a vobis præclare gesta toti pene jam Orbi notissima demonstrent, nedum id exoptare, sed omni conatu, studio et diligentia, nullis laboribus, nullis impensis, nullisque parcendo periculis, etiam proprium sanguinem effundendo efficere, ac omnem animum vestrum omnesque conatus ad hoc jamdudum dedicasse, quemadmodum recuperatio regni Granatæ a tyrannide Saracenum hodiernis temporibus per vos, cum tanta Divini nominis gloria, facta testatur, digne ducimus non immerito et debemus

illa vobis etiam sponte et favorabiliter concedere, per quæ huiusmodi sanctum et laudabile ac immortali Deo acceptum propositum in dies ferventiori animo ad ipsius Dei honorem et imperii Christiani propagationem prosequi valeatis. Sane accepimus, quod vos, qui dudum animo proposueratis aliquas insulas et terras firmas remotas et incognitas, ac per alios hactenus non repertas, quærere et invenire, ut illarum incolas et habitatores ad colendum Redemptorem nostrum et fidem Catholicam profitendum reduceretis, hactenus in expugnatione et recuperatione ipsius regni Granatæ plurimum occupati, huiusmodi sanctum et laudabile propositum vestrum ad optatum finem perducere nequivistis; sed tandem, sicut Domino placuit, regno prædicto recuperato, volentes desiderium adimplere vestrum, dilectum filium Christoforum Colon virum utique dignum et plurimum commendandum, ac tanto negotio aptum, cum navigiis et hominibus ad similia

instrutis non sine maximis laboribus et periculis ac expensis destinatis. Ut terras firmas et insulas remotas et in cognititas huiusmodi per mare hactenus navigatum non fuit diligenter inquireret. Qui tandem divino auxilio facta extrema diligentia in mari oceano navigantes certas Insulas remotissimas et etiam terras firmas quæ per alios hactenus reperte non fuerant invenerunt in quibus quam plurime gentes pacifice viventes et ut asseritum nudi in cedentes nec carnibus vestentes inhabitant et ut prefacti nuntij vestri posunt opinari gentes ipse in insulis et terris predictis habitantes credun[t] unum Deum Creatorem in celis esse, ac ad fidem catholicam amplexandum et moris bonis imbuendum satis apti videntur spesque habetur quod si erudirentur nomen sal-

vatoris Domini nostri Jesu Christi, in terris et insulis predictis facile in duceretur ad prefactus Christophorus in una ex principalibus Insulis predictis jam unam turrinam satis munitam in qua certos Christianos qui secum iverant in custodiam et ut alias Insulas et terras firmas remotas et in cognititas inquirerent posuit construere et edificare fecit. In quibus quidem insulis et terris jam repertis aurum aromata et aliæ quam plurime res preciosæ diversi generis et diversæ qualitatis reperiuntur. Unde omnibus diligenter et pressertim fide exaltatione Catholicæ et dilatatione pro ut decet catholicos reges et principes consideratis more progenitorum vestrorum clare memorie regum terras firmas et insulas predictas illarumque incolas et habitatores vobis divina favente clementia subicere et ad fidem catholicam reducere proposuistis. Nos igitur huiusmodi vestrum sanctum et laudabile propositum plurimum in Domino commendantes ac cupientes ut illud ad debitum finem perducatur et ipsum nomen Salvatoris nostri in partibus illis in ducatur

instructis, non sine maximis laboribus et periculis ac expensis destinatis, ut terras firmas et insulas remotas et incognitas huiusmodi, per mare ubi hactenus navigatum non fuerat, diligenter inquireret. Qui tandem (Divino auxilio, facta extrema diligentia, in mari Oceano navigantes,) certas insulas remotissimas, et etiam terras firmas, quæ per alios hactenus repertæ non fuerant, invenerunt, in quibus quamplurimæ gentes pacifice viventes, et ut asseritur nudi incedentes, nec carnibus vescentes, inhabitant; et, ut præfati nuntii vestri possunt opinari, gentes ipsæ in insulis et terris prædictis habitantes erunt unum Deum Creatorem in Cælis esse, ac ad fidem Catholicam amplexandum et bonis moribus imbuendum satis apti videntur; spesque habetur, quod, si erudirentur, nomen Salvatoris Domini nostri, Jesu Christi in terris et insulis prædictis facile indueretur. Ac præfatus Christophorus in una ex principalibus insulis prædictis,

not without very great labours, dangers and costs, in order that he might diligently seek for such remote and unknown mainlands and islands, in a sea wherein no voyage had hitherto been made. Who, at length, by divine aid, having used extreme diligence, discovered, while navigating in the Ocean, certain very remote islands and also mainlands, which had hitherto not been found by others; wherein dwell multitudes of people living peaceably, and, as it is affirmed, going naked, and not feeding upon flesh; and, so far as your aforesaid envoys can judge, the same people dwelling in the aforesaid islands and lands believe that there is one God, the Creator, in heaven, and appear well disposed to embrace the Catholic faith and to be imbued with good morals; and the hope is entertained that if they were instructed, the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ might easily be introduced into the aforesaid lands and islands. And the aforesaid Christopher has already caused to be constructed and built, in one of the principal islands aforesaid, a tower adequately fortified, wherein he has placed certain Christians, who had gone with him, for the custody thereof, and in order that they might seek for other remote and unknown islands and mainlands. In which same islands and lands already discovered there are found gold, spices and quantities of other precious things of divers kinds and qualities. Wherefore, having diligently considered all things, and especially the advancement and extension of the Catholic faith, as becomes Catholic Kings and Princes, you have resolved, after the manner of the Kings your ancestors of illustrious memory, by the labour of divine mercy, to bring into subjection to yourselves and reduce to the Catholic faith the mainlands and islands aforesaid, and the natives and inhabitants thereof. We, therefore, highly commending in the Lord such your holy and laudable design, and desiring that it may be carried out to its due perfection, and that the said name of our Saviour may be introduced into those regions,

jam unam turrinam satis munitam, in qua certos Christianos, qui secum iverant, in custodiam, et ut alias insulas et terras firmas remotas et incognitas inquirerent, posuit, construere et edificari fecit. In quibus quidem insulis et terris jam repertis aurum, aromata, et aliæ quamplurimæ res pretiosæ diversi generis et diversæ qualitatis reperiuntur. Unde omnibus diligenter et præsertim fidei Catholicæ exaltatione et dilatatione (prout decet Catholicos Reges et Principes), consideratis, more progenitorum vestrorum claræ memoriæ Regum, terras firmas et insulas prædictas, illarumque incolas et habitatores vobis divina favente clementia subicere et ad fidem Catholicam reducere proposuistis. Nos igitur, huiusmodi vestrum sanctum et laudabile propositum plurimum in Domino commendantes, ac cupientes ut illud ad debitum finem perducatur, et ipsum nomen Salvatoris nostri in partibus illis inducatur,

Instructis nō sine maximis laboribus & pectis ac expensis
 destinatis. Ut terras firmas & insulas Remotas &
 incognitas hmoi p mare Vbi hactenū navigatio nō
 fuit diligenter inqueret. Vnitandū diuino auxilio facta
 extrema diligentia in mari oceano nauigantes certas
 Insulas Remotissimas & ety terras firmas quę p alios
 hactenus Reperite nō fuerant in Venetis in quibus q̃
 ptime gentes pacifice viuentes & ut affitum mundi
 incedentes nec caribus uestentes in habitant & ut pre
 facti nuntij Vri possint opinari gentes ipse in insulis &
 terris p̃dictis habitantes credū vnu dē Creatorem
 in celis esse. Ac ad fidē catholicam amplexadum & moris
 bonibz Imbuendū sat apti vident spēs q̃ hetur quod si
 erudirent nōmē saluatoris Dñi nri ihu x̃ in terris
 & insulis p̃dictis facile induceretur ad p̃factus x̃for
 in vna exp̃ncipalibz Insulis p̃dictis iam vnam turrē
 satis munitam in qua certos X̃anos qui secum uerant
 in custodiam & ut alias Insulas & terras firmas re
 motas & incognitas inquirerent posuit Construi &
 edificare fecit. In quibus quid insulis & terris iam
 Reptis aurum aromata & alie quam ptime Res
 p̃ciosse Diuisi generis & diuerse q̃litas Reperiunt
 Vnde omnibus diligenter & p̃ssim fide exaltatio
 Catholice & dilatatioe pro ut decet catholicos reges
 & p̃ncipes consideratis more progenitorū & uxorū clare
 memorie regum terras firmas & insulas p̃dictas illa
 rūq; incolas & habitatores uobis diuinā fauente de
 mentia subicere & ad fidē catholicam reducere propo
 suistis. Nos igitur hmoi uzum sanctum & laudabile pro
 positum ptimuz in dño Comendantes ac Cupientes
 ut illud ad debitum finem perducatur & ipm
 nomē Saluatoris nri in partibus illis inducatur

hortamur Vos plurimum in domino & per Sacri lauacri
Susceptionem qua mandati apostolicis obligati estis &
viscera misericordie domini nostri Iesu Christi habent regimus
ut cum expeditionem huiusmodi omnino persequi & assumere
pernam mente orthodoxe fidei zelo intendatis populos
in huiusmodi insulis & terris de gentes ad christianam religionem
suscipiendam inducere: uelitis & delectatis. nec picta
nec labores ullo unquam tempore vos de terream firmam spe
fidutiarius concepti quod deus omnipotens cognatus uos
felicitate persequitur & ut tanti negotii punctum apostolice
ore largitate donati liberius & audacius assumatis.
Motu proprio non ad vestram ut alterius pro uobis super
hoc nobis oblate petitionis instantiam sed de nostra mera
libertate & certa scientia ac de apostolice potestatis pleni
tudine omnes insulas & terras firmas inuentas & in
ueniendas detectas & detegendas uersus occidentem
& meridiem fabricando & constituendo unam lineam
a polo arctico. scilicet septentrione ad polum antarcticum. scilicet
meridiem siue terre firme & insule inuenite & inue
niende sint uersus Indiam aut uersus aliam quancunque
partem linea distet a quolibet insularum que uulgariter
nuncupantur de los Azores & cabo Verde Centum leuag
uersus occidentem & meridiem. Ita quod omnes insule
& terre firme repte & repiende detecte & detegende
apud prefata linea uersus occidentem & meridiem per a
lium Regem aut principem christianum non fuerint actuati
posse usque ad diem natiuitatis domini nostri Iesu christi
proxime preteritum a quo incipit annus primus Millesimus
& quadringentesimus nonagesimus tertius. Quando
fuerint: per nuntios & capitaneos vestros inuenite
Alique predictarum insularum Auctor omnipotentis

exhort you greatly in the Lord, and earnestly require by the holy baptism you have received, whereby you are subject to the Apostolic commands, and by the bowels of mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, since you intend to undertake and thoroughly carry out this expedition, with a forward mind and zeal for the orthodox faith, you will desire, and be under obligation, to induce the people dwelling in such islands and lands to embrace the Christian religion; nor let dangers or labours at any time ever dismay you, possessing firm hope and confidence that God Almighty will prosperously promote your efforts. And in order that you may the more freely and boldly assume the charge of so great an undertaking, committed to you with the bounty of Apostolic grace, of our own motion, not at your own instance or at the petition of any other person presented to us on your behalf, but of our mere liberality and of our certain knowledge, and also with the plenitude of Apostolic power, all islands and mainlands found and to be found, discovered and to be discovered, towards the west and south, by making and drawing a line from the arctic pole, that is to say from the north, to the antarctic pole, that is to say to the south, whether the mainlands and islands discovered and to be discovered be towards India or towards any other part whatsoever; which line shall be distant from every one of the islands which are commonly called de los Azores and Cape Verde one hundred leagues towards the west and south; provided that all the islands and mainlands found and to be found, discovered and to be discovered, from the aforesaid line towards west and south, have not been actually in the possession of any other Christian King or Prince until the day of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ last past, from which the present year one thousand four hundred and ninety-three begins, when some of the aforesaid islands were discovered by your envoys and captains; by the authority of Almighty

hortamur vos plurimum in domino et per sacri lavacri susceptionem qua mandatis apostolicis obligati estis et viscera misericordie domini nostri Jesu Christi baccante requirimus ut cum expeditionem huiusmodi omnino persequi et assumere prona mente orthodoxe fidei zelo in tendatis populos in huiusmodi insulis et terris de gentes ad christianam religionem suscipiendam inducere, velitis et debeatis, nec pericula nec labores ullo unquam tempore vos deterreant firma spe fiduciaque conceptis quod Deus omnipotens cognatus vestros feliciter prosequitur et ut tanti negotii provinciam apostolice gratie largitate donati liberius et audacius assumatis, Motu proprio non ad vestram vel alterius pro vobis super hoc nobis oblate petitionis instantiam sed

de nostra mera libertate et certa scientia ac de apostolice potestatis plenitudine omnes Insulas et terras firmas inventas et inveniendas detectas et detegendas versus occidentem et meridiem fabricando et constituendo unam lineam a polo arctico, scilicet, septentrionem, ad polum antarcticum, scilicet meridiem sive terre firme et insule invente et inveniende sint versus Indiam aut versus aliam quacunque partemque linea distet aequalibet insularum quæ vulgariter nuncupantur delos Azores et cabo verde centum leucis versus occidentem et meridiem. Ita quod omnes insule et terre firme reperte et reperiende detecte et detegende a prefata linea versus occidentem et meridiem per alium Regem aut principem Christianum non fuerint actualiter possese usque ad diem nativitatís Domini nostri Jesu Christi proxime preteritum aquo incipit annus presens Millesimus quadringentesimus nonagesimus tertius. Quando fuerunt, per nuntios et capitaneos vestros invente alique predictarum insularum auctoritate omnipotentis

hortamur vos plurimum in Domino, et per sacri lavacri susceptionem, qua mandatis Apostolicis obligati estis, et viscera misericordie Domini nostri Jesu Christi attente requirimus, ut eum expeditionem huiusmodi omnino prosequi, et assumere prona mente [et] orthodoxe Fidei zelo intendatis, populos in huiusmodi insulis et terris degentes ad Christianam Religionem suscipiendam inducere velitis, et debeatis, nec pericula nec labores ullo unquam tempore vos deterreant, firma spe fiduciaque conceptis, quod Deus omnipotens conatus vestros feliciter prosequetur. Et ut tanti negotii provinciam Apostolicæ gratiæ largitate donati liberius et audacius assumatis, motu proprio, non ad vestram vel alterius pro vobis super hoc nobis oblatæ petitionis instantiam, sed de nostra mera liberalitate, et ex certa scientia, ac de Apostolicæ potestatis plenitudine, omnes insulas et terras firmas inventas et inveniendas, detectas et dete-

gendas versus Occidentem et Meridiem, fabricando et construendo unam lineam a polo Arctico, scilicet Septentrione, ad polum Antarcticum, scilicet Meridiem, sive terræ firmæ et insulæ inventæ et inveniendæ sint versus Indiam aut versus aliam quaecumque partem; quæ linea distet a qualibet Insularum, quæ vulgariter nuncupantur delos Azores y Cabo vierde, centum leucis versus Occidentem et Meridiem; ita quod omnes insulæ et terræ firmæ repertæ et reperiendæ, detectæ et detegendæ a præfata linea versus Occidentem et Meridiem per alium Regem aut Principem Christianum non fuerint actualiter possessæ usque ad diem Nativitatis Domini nostri Jesu Christi proxime preteritum, a quo ineipit annus præsens millesimus quadringentesimus nonagesimus tertius, quando fuerunt per Nuntios et Capitaneos vestros inventæ aliquæ prædictarum insularum, auctoritate omnipotentis

Dei nobis in Beato Petro concessa ac vicariatus Jesu Christi qua fungimur in terris cum omnibus illarum dominiis civitatibus castris locis et villis juribusque et jurisdictionibus ac pertinentiis, universis vobis hereditibusque et successoribus vestris Castellæ et Legionibus Regibus in perpetuum tenore presentium donamus concedimus et assignamus vosque et heredes ac successores prefatos illarum dominos cum plena libera et omnimoda potestate auctoritate et jurisdictione facimus constituimus et deputamus decernentes nichilominus et per huiusmodi donationem concessionem et assignationem vestram nulli Christiano principi, qui actualiter prefatas Insulas aut terras firmas possederit usque ad predictum diem nativitat

tatis Domini nostri Jesu Christi jus quesitum sublatum intelligi aut auferri debere et in super mandamus vobis in virtute sancte obedientie ut sicut etiam pollicemini et non dubitamus pro vestra maxima devotione et regia magnanimitate vos esse facturos ad terras firmas et Insulas predictas viros probos et Deum timentes doctos prefatos in fide catholica et in bonis moribus imbuendum destinare de beatis omnem debitam diligentiam in premissis adhibentes ac quibuscunque personis cuiuscunque dignitatis etiam imperialis et regalis status gradus conditionis sub excommunicationis late sententie pena quam eo ipso si contra fecerint incurrant districtius inhibemus ne ad Insulas et terras firmas inventas et inveniendas detectas et detegendas versus occidentem et meridiem fabricando et constituendo lineam, apollo artico: ad polum antarticum sive terre firme et insule invente et inveniende sunt

Dei nobis in beato Petro concessa, ac Vicariatus Jesu Christi, qua fungimur in terris, cum omnibus illarum dominiis, civitatibus, castris, locis et villis, juribusque et jurisdictionibus ac pertinentiis universis, vobis, hereditibusque et successoribus vestris Castellæ et Legionis Regibus in perpetuum tenore presentium donamus, concedimus et assignamus: vosque et heredes ac successores prefatos illarum dominos, cum plena, libera et omnimoda potestate, auctoritate et jurisdictione, facimus, constituimus et deputamus; decernentes nihilominus per huiusmodi donationem, concessionem et assignationem nostram nulli Christiano Principi, qui actualiter prefatas insulas et terras firmas possederit usque ad dictum diem Nativitatis Domini nostri Jesu Christi, jus quesitum sublatum intelligi [posse] aut auferri debere. Et insuper mandamus

God granted to us in Blessed Peter, and of the vicarship of Jesus Christ, which we exercise upon earth; with all their dominions, cities, strongholds, places and hamlets, and all their rights and jurisdictions and appurtenances; by the tenor of these presents we give, grant and assign for ever to you, and to your heirs and successors, being Kings of Castile and Leon; and we make, constitute and depute you and your aforesaid heirs and successors lords thereof, with full, free and complete power, authority and jurisdiction; decreeing, nevertheless, that by this our donation, concession and assignment the right acquired cannot be understood [to have been] taken away, nor ought it to be taken away, from any Christian Prince who shall have actually possessed the aforesaid islands or mainlands until the aforesaid day of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ. And moreover we command you, in virtue of holy obedience, that, as you promise and we doubt not will perform by reason of your very great devotion and royal magnanimity, you shall despatch to the aforesaid mainlands and islands upright and God-fearing men, learned, skilful and experienced, to instruct the aforesaid natives and inhabitants in the Catholic faith, and to imbue them with good morals, using all due diligence in the premises. And we strictly forbid any persons whomsoever, of whatsoever dignity, even imperial and royal, or of any estate, degree, order or condition, under pain of excommunication *latae sententiæ*, which they will incur thereby if they do otherwise, to presume to approach the islands and mainlands found and to be found, discovered and to be discovered, towards the west and south, making and drawing a line from the arctic pole to the antarctic pole, whether the mainlands and islands found and to be found be

vobis in virtute sanctæ obedientiæ, ut (sicut pollicemini, et non dubitamus pro vestra maxima devotione et regia magnanimitate vos esse facturos) ad terras firmas et insulas predictas viros probos et Deum timentes, doctos [peritos, et expertos, ad instruendum incolas et habitatores] prefatos in fide catholica et bonis moribus imbuendum destinare debeatis, omnem debitam diligentiam in premissis adhibentes. Ac quibuscunque personis, cuiuscunque dignitatis, etiam Imperialis et Regalis, status, gradus, ordinis, vel conditionis, sub excommunicationis *latae sententiæ* pœna, quam eo ipso, si contra fecerint, incurrant, districtius inhibemus ne ad insulas et terras firmas inventas et inveniendas, detectas et detegendas, versus Occidentem et Meridiem, fabricando et construendo lineam a Polo Arctico ad Polum Antarcticum, sive terræ firmæ et insulæ inventæ et inveniendæ sint

dei nobis In Bto. petro concessa ac vicariatus ihu xpi qua
fungimur in terris Cum omnibus illarum dominij ci
uitatibus Castris locis & villis iuribusq; & iurisdi
ctionibus ac pertinentijs. Vniuersis uobis heredibusq; &
successoribus uestris castelle & legionibus Regibus in
perpetuum tenore presentium donamus Concedimus & a
signamus uosq; & heredes ac successores prefatos illarum
dominos Cum plena libera & omnimoda potestate aucte
& iurisdictione fatim constitui & deputamus decernentes
nichilominus & per huiusmodi donationem concessionem &
assignationem uestram nulli Lano principi. Qui aduante
prefatas Insulas aut terras firmas possederit usq; ad predictum
diem nati. dni nri ihu xpi suscriptum sublatum intelligi
aut auferri debere & in super mandamus uobis in uir
tute sancte obire ut sic est pollicemini & no dubitamus
pro uestra maxima deuotione & regia magnanimitate uos
esse facturos ad terras firmas & insulas predictas uiros
probos & deu fidentes doctos prefatos in fide catholica
& in bonis moribus imbued destinare de beate omne
debitam diligentiam impensis adhibentes ac quibuscumq;
personis Cuiuscumq; dignitatis etc imperialis & regalis
status gradus hordinis ut conditionis sub excommunicationis
late sententie pena quam corpe si contra fecerint Incurrant
districte inhibem ne ad Insulas & terras firmas In
uentas & inueniendas detectas & detegendas uersus
occidentem & meridiem fabricando & constituendo li
neam apollo artico: ad pollum antarticum siue
terre firme & insule inueniendi & inueniende sunt

uersus indiam aut uersus aliam quāq; partemq; linea
distet aq; insula hocq; uulgarit' incupant' delos açores
& cabo uerde centum leucis uersus occidentem & me-
ridiem ut p̄fertur p̄mercib; hndis ut quāq; alia
de causa (accedere p̄sumant absq; urām acheredū &
successorū urorū predictorū licentiā. sp̄ati nō obstatib;
q̄stutōib; & ordinatōib; apticis ceterisq; contrariis
quibuscūq; in illo aquo impia & d̄nationes ac bona
cūcta p̄cedū confidentes qd̄ dirigente d̄no actus vros
si h̄mōi sanctum & laudabilem propositum prosequimur
breui tempore Cum felicitate & gl̄ia totius p̄ti x̄anij
uri labores & conatus exitum felicissimū consequuntur
Verum quia difficile foret p̄ns vras ac singula quęq;
loca in quibus expediens fuit de ferri. Volum' ac motu
& scientia similib; decernim' Quod illarū transscriptus
manu publici Notarij in de Rogati subscriptis: &
sigillo allicui p̄sone in eccl̄astica dignitate constitutę
seu Curie eccl̄asticę munitis & prorsus fides in iudicio
& extra ac alios ubiq; adhibeaturq; p̄ntib; adhiberet
si eēt exhibite ut ostense Nulli ḡ oīo hominū liceat
hanc paginam nr̄e cōmendatōis hortatōis Req̄sitōis
donatōis concessōis assignatōis constitutōis deputatōis
decreti mandati inhibitionis & uoluntate infringere
uel ei ausu temerario contraire Signis autē hoc actū
tare p̄sumpserit Indinatioem omnipotentis dei ac B̄torū
Petri & Pauli aptorū ei; senouerit in cursu. Date
Rome apud sanctum Petrum Anno Incarnationis
d̄n̄ice Millesimo Quadringentesimo Nonagesimo. Tertio/
quarto nonas Maij. Pontificat' nr̄i Anno primo.
Gratis de mandato Sanctissimij d̄ni nr̄i p̄p̄. p. R.
A. de muceulis. p. Jo. Lus. A. consenino. L. podo
chatar. D. Galles registrata in camera aptica amercinus.

towards India or towards any other part whatsoever; which line shall be distant from every one of the islands commonly called de los Azores and Cape Verd a hundred leagues towards the west and south, as it is aforesaid; for trade or any other reason, without special licence from you and your aforesaid heirs and successors; notwithstanding the Apostolic constitutions and ordinances, and any other things to the contrary: trusting in him from whom proceed empires and dominions and all good things, that, the Lord directing your actions, if you prosecute so holy and laudable a design, in a short time, for the happiness and glory of the whole Christian people, your labours and efforts will attain a most successful issue. But because it would be difficult to convey the present letters to each of the places where it might be expedient, we will and decree, of our like motion and knowledge, that transcripts thereof, signed by the hand of a notary public summoned for that purpose, and made valid with the seal of some person established in ecclesiastical dignity, or of an ecclesiastical court, shall obtain the same credence within and without any court of law and elsewhere wheresoever, which these presents would obtain if they were exhibited or shown. Therefore let no man whosoever infringe this page of our commendation, exhortation, requisition, donation, concession, assignment, constitution, deputation, decree, mandate, inhibition and will, or with bold rashness contravene it. But if anyone shall presume to attempt this, let him know that he will incur the indignation of Almighty God and of his blessed Apostles Peter and Paul. Given in Rome, at Saint Peter's, in the year of the incarnation of our Lord one thousand four hundred and ninety-three, on the fourth nones of May, in the first year of our Pontificate. Gratis, by command of our most holy Lord the Pope. For the very reverend A. de Moccialis on behalf of Jo. Lur. A. Consenino. L. Podochatarus. D. Galletus. Registered in the Apostolic Chamber, Amerinus.

tius populi Christiani vestri labores et conatus exitum felicissimum consequentur. foret presens literas ac singula queque loca in quibus expediens fuerit deferri, Volumus ac motu et scientia similibus decernimus quod illarum transumptis manu publici notarii inde rogati subscriptis, et sigillo alicuius persone in ecclesiastica dignitate constitute seu Curie ecclesiastice munitis et prorsus fides in iudicio et extra ac alios ubilibet adhibeaturque presentibus adhibetur si essent exhibitæ vel ostensæ. Nulli ergo omnino hominum liceat hanc paginam nostre commendationis hortationis requisitionis donationis concessionis assignationis constitutionis deputationis decreti mandati inhibitionis et voluntatis infringere vel ei ausu temerario contraire. Siquis autem hoc attentare presumpserit in indignationem omnipotentis Dei ac Beatorum Petri et Pauli apostolorum eius senoverit incursurum. Datum Rome apud sanctum Petrum anno Incarnationis Dominice Millesimo quadringentesimo nonagesimo tertio, quarto nonas Maij, Pontificatus nostri anno primo. Gratis de mandato Sanctissimi domini nostri pape pro reverendissimo A. de Muccialis, pro Jo. Bur. A. Consenino. L. Podochatarus. D. Galletus. Registrata in camera apostolica Amerinus.

versus Indiam, aut versus aliquam quancunque partem; quæ linea distet a qualibet insularum, quæ vulgariter nuncupantur delos Azores y Cabo Verde, centum leucis versus Occidentem et Meridiem, ut præfertur; pro mercibus habendis, vel quavis alia de causa, accedere præsumant absque vestra ac heredum et successorum vestrorum prædictorum licentia speciali; non obstantibus constitutionibus et ordinationibus Apostolicis, ceterisque contrariis quibuscumque: in illo, a quo imperia et dominationes ac bona cuncta procedunt, confidentes, quod dirigente Domino actus vestros, si huiusmodi sanctum et laudabile propositum prosequamini, brevi tempore, cum felicitate et gloria totius populi Christiani, vestri labores et conatus exitum felicissimum consequentur. Verum, quia difficile foret præsentem literas ac singula quæque loca, in quibus expediens fuerit, deferri, volumus, ac motu et scientia similibus decernimus, quod illarum transumptis, manu publici notarii inde rogati subscriptis, et sigillo

versus Indiam aut versus aliam quancunque partemque lineam distet aqualibet insula hõ que vulgariter nuncupantur delos Açores et Cabo Verde centum leucis versus occidentem et meridiem ut prefertur promeribus habendis vel quavis alia de cabsa accedere presumant absque vestram achedum et successorum vestrorum prædictorum licentia speciali non obstantibus constitutionibus et ordinationibus apostolicis ceterisque contrariis quibuscunque in illo aquo imperia et dominationes ac bona cuncta procedunt] confidentes quod dirigente Domino actus vestros si huiusmodi sanctum et laudabile propositum prosequamini brevi tempore cum felicitate et gloria to-

alicujus personæ in ecclesiastica dignitate constitutæ seu Curie Ecclesiasticæ munitis, ea prorsus fides in iudicio et extra ac alias ubilibet adhibeatur, quæ præsentibus adhiberetur, si essent exhibitæ vel ostensæ. Nulli ergo omnino hominum liceat hanc paginam nostræ commendationis, hortationis, requisitionis, donationis, concessionis, assignationis, constitutionis, deputationis, decreti, mandati, inhibitionis et voluntatis infringere, vel ei ausu temerario contraire. Si quis autem hoc attentare præsumpserit, indignationem omnipotentis Dei, ac beatorum Petri et Pauli Apostolorum ejus, senoverit incursurum. Datum Romæ apud Sanctum Petrum, anno Incarnationis Dominicæ millesimo quadringentesimo nonagesimo tertio, quarto nonas Maii, Pontificatus nostri anno primo. Gratis, de mandato Sanctissimi Domini nostri Papæ. Pro Reverendissimo A. de Moccialis, pro Jo. Lur. A. Consenino. L. Podochatarus. D. Galletus. Registrata in Camera Apostolica. Amerinus.

Quibus quidem literis diligenter ut preffertur per nos inspectis ad requisitionem honorabilis viri Alfonsi Alvares de Toledo domus Regie Hispanie continui familiaris per notarium publicum infra scriptum in vim clausule in fine prefactorum literarum Apostolicarum superius insertarum a positenque [appositæ, quæ] talis est: Werum quia difficile foret presentes literas ad singula queque loca in quibus expediens fuerit defferri volumus ac motu et scientia similibus decernimus quod illarum transumptis manu publici notarij inde rogati subscriptis et sigillo alicuius persone in ecclesiastica dignitate constitute, seu curie ecclesiastice munitatis [munitis] ea prorsus fides in iudicio et extra ac alias ubilibet adhibeatur que presentibus adhibeatur si essent exhibite vel obstense ipsas exemplari mandavimus et transsumi ac in publicam formam redigij decernentes et volentes ut huic presenti transumpto publico sive exemplo plena fides deinceps adhibeatur ubilibet in

locis omnibus et singulis quibus fuerit opportunum ipsumque transumptum fidem faciat et ille [illi] stetur ac si originales ipse litere apparerent producerentur et presentarentur. Quibus omnibus et singulis auctoritatem nostram ordinariam interpussuimus interponimusque pariter et decretum per presentes et ad ampliorem et clariorem evidentiam premissorum sigillum nostrum presentibus unacum infrascripti notarij signo et subscriptione impendenti duximus apponendum. Acta fuerunt hec Barchinone in domo habitationis nostre in camera nostra die veneris decima nona mensis Julij, sub anno anativitate Domini millesimo quadragesimo [quadragesimo] nonagesimo tertio pontificatus eiusdem Sanctissimi in Christo Patris Domini nostri Domini Alexandri divina providentia Pape Sexti anno primo, presentibus ibidem venerabilibus et providis viris Nicholao Pillicer nostre ecclesie Barchinonensis Canonico et Petro Johanne Vayo ac Michaele Giñones clericis presbiteris capellanis et familiaribus nostris testibus ad premissa vocatis et rogatis. Et ego Alvarus Peres del Villar Sancte ecclesie Compostellane Canonicus Notarius Apostolicus Reverendissimi Domini Didaci Ispalensis [episcopi] secretarius, quia premissis literarum apostolicarum insertarum [insertarum] presentationi, receptioni, requisitioni, visioni,

WHICH same letters having been diligently inspected by us, as it is aforesaid, at the requisition of the honourable man Alfonso Alvares of Toledo, familiar continuo of the Royal Household of Spain, by means of the underwritten notary public, in virtue of the clause placed at the end of the aforesaid Apostolic letters inserted above, which is as follows: But because it would be difficult to convey the present letters to each of the places where it might be expedient, we will and decree, of our like motion and knowledge, that transcripts thereof, signed by the hand of a notary public summoned for that purpose, and made valid with the seal of some person established in ecclesiastical dignity, or of an ecclesiastical court, shall obtain the same credence within and without any court of law and elsewhere wheresoever, which these presents would obtain if they were exhibited or shown: we have ordered them to be copied and transcribed and drawn up in public form, decreeing and willing that this present public transcript or copy shall henceforth obtain full credence everywhere, in all and singular places, in which it shall be required, and that the said transcript shall obtain credence and be relied on, just as though the original letters themselves should appear, and be produced and presented. In all and singular which things we have interposed our ordinary authority, and we likewise also interpose our decree by these presents, and for fuller and clearer evidence of the premises we have thought fit to affix our seal to these presents, together with the sign and subscription of the underwritten notary appended. These things were done in Barcelona, in our dwelling-house and in our chamber, on Friday, the nineteenth day of the month of July, in the year of the nativity of our Lord one thousand four hundred and ninety-three, in the first year of the Pontificate of the said most holy Father in Christ our Lord the Lord Alexander the Sixth, by divine providence Pope; there being present the venerable and prudent men Nicholas Pillicer, Canon of our Church of Barcelona, and Peter John Vayo and Michael Ginones our clerks, priests, chaplains and domestics, called and summoned as witnesses to the aforesaid. And I, Alvarus Peres del Villar, Canon of the holy church of Compostella, Apostolic Notary, Secretary of the Right Reverend Don Diego, Bishop of Seville, because I was present at the above-recited presentation, reception, requisition and inspection of the Apostolic letters [herein] inserted,

xlvii

Quibus quidem

lris diligenter ut.
pffertur per nos inspectis ad requisitionem honorabilis uiri
alonsi aluarez de toledo domus Regie Spanje cōtinui
familiaris p notum pū^m supra scriptum in vīm clausula
infine prefatarū hāc aplicarū supius instarum a
positenq; talis ē. Verum quia difficile foret pntes lras
ad singula quęq; loca inqbus expediens fuit defferri volum
ac motu & scientia similib; decernim; quod illarū transumpt
manu pū^m notarij inde Rogati subscripti & sigillo alicui; per
sone in eccliaistica dignitate constitute seu curie ecclie mu
nitatis ea p̄sus fides in iudicio et extra ac alias ubiq; ad
hibeaturq; pntib; adhiberet si eēt exhibit ut obteste
ip̄as exemplari mandauim; & transsumi ac in plicum
formam redigij decernentes & uolentes ut huic pnti;
transumpto publico siue exemplo plena fides deinceps ad
hibeatur ubiq; in locis oib; & singulis quib; fuit opportunū
ip̄mq; transumptum fid; faciat et ille stetur. Ac si original
ip̄e lre apparerent pducere & p̄sentarentur. Quib;
omnib; & singulis autē nram ordinariam interposuim;
interponimus q̄ parit & decretum p pntes & ad ampliore
et clariorem euidentiam pmissorū sigillū nū pntibus
vna ad infra scripti notarij signo & subscriptioe impendenti
duxim; apponend; acta fuerunt hec Barchinone in domo
habitationis nre in Camera nra die veneris decima nona
Mensis Iulij. sub Anno a^{te} Dm M.^{mo} quadra.^{mo} Non.^{mo}
Tertio pontificat; eiusd; Sancti. In x. p̄is dñi nri dñi
Alexadri diuina p̄ij pape Sexti anno Primo. Pntib; ibid;
venerabilib; & promissis uiris Nicholao pillurer m̄e ecclie
Barchinonē Canonic & petro Johanne lugo ac Michaele
omonis thcis presbiteris capellanis & familiarib; nris Testi
bus ad pmissa vocatis & rogatis. Et ego aluaz p̄s
del villar Sancte ecclie compostellane canonicus notus ap
Rm. D. Didaci sp̄atn copi sēlaris quia pmissis t̄m
aplicarū p̄statarū p̄ntationi p̄fectioni requisitioni uisioni

dectusq; interpositioni exemplationi omnibusq; alijs & singulis
 dum sic ut pmissum fuerent agerent & dicerentur. Vnacum
 prenominat. testib; pns interfui eaq; omnia & singula sic fieri
 vidi audiri & in nota supsi ex q; pns fustm. paha me alijs
 occupato negotijs fidele scriptum de mandato p facti dni epi
 extraxi p factasq; lras aptas supius fustas exemplari ac
 abstulauit cum ppijs originib; & concordat de verbo ad
 verbum signos & noie meis solitis & consuecti signum infid
 & testimonium om & singulor pmissor rogatus & requi
 situs. El qual dho traslado fue corregido & concertado
 por mi el notario infra escripto. con la dha escriptura origin
 onde fue sacado en la muy noble & muy leal cibdad de
 senilla Jueves treyta dias del mes de diciembre. Anno
 dela natuidad del nro Senor ihu xpo de mill & quys &
 dss as. Testigos que fueron pntes a vella corregir con el
 original. Los honrrados & discretos barones gomes
 mto escrmano. & mny de ayamonte & Juan gonzals
 contero vezinos dela dicha cibdad de senilla para esto
 llamados & rogados.



Ruys montana hostal de...

capem e aipado de opor ar...
 de qto lo qub dme en fe e rromendo de d...
 de qto lo qub dme en fe e rromendo de d...

de qto lo qub dme en fe e rromendo de d...
 de qto lo qub dme en fe e rromendo de d...
 de qto lo qub dme en fe e rromendo de d...

and at the interposition of the decree and the exemplification, and all and singular other things, whilst, as aforesaid, they were thus being done, executed and recited, together with the before-named witnesses; and saw and heard all and singular the things thus done, and took note thereof, from which, by command of the aforesaid Lord Bishop, I have drawn out the present instrument, faithfully written by another person, I being occupied with other affairs; and I have exemplified the aforesaid Apostolic letters abobe inserted, and heard them read with the very originals, and they agree word for word; and, being summoned and requested, I have signed them with my usual and customary sign and name, in faith and testimony of all and singular the premises. Which said transcript was corrected and collated by me, the underwritten notary, with the said original document from which it was extracted, in the most noble and most loyal city of Seville, on Thursday, the thirtieth day of the month of December, in the year of the nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ one thousand five hundred and two. Witnesses who were present to see it corrected with the original: the honourable and discreet men Gomes Nieto, scribe, and Martin de Ayamonte and John Gonzales Contero, inhabitants of the said city of Seville, called and summoned for that purpose.

P. Ruys Montana, Apostolic Notary.

And I, Pero Ruys Montana, Clerk, of Cordoba, Apostolic Notary, being summoned and requested, was present, together with the said witnesses, at all and every particular of the contents of this document of parchment of our most holy Father, and I saw it and took note thereof, and, being occupied in other affairs, caused it to be written out faithfully by another person, and have undersigned it with this my customary sign, in proof and testimony of the truth. Pero Ruys de Montana, Notary.

gos que fueron presentes a vella corregir conel original, los honrrados e discretos varones Gomes Nieto escrivano, e Martin de Ayamonte e Juan Gonçales Contero vezinos dela dicha çibdad de Sevilla para esto llamados e rogados.

decretusque interpositioni exemplationi omnibusque aliis et singulis dum sic ut premittitur fierent agerentur et dicerentur, unacum prenotatis testibus presens interfui eaque omnia et singula sic fieri vidi audiui et in notam sumpsi ex qua presens instrumentum per aliam me aliis occupato negotiis fideliter scriptum de mandato prefacti Domini Episcopi extraxi prefactasque literas apostolicas superius insertas exemplavi ac abstulavi [auscultavi] cum propriis originalibus et concordat de verbo ad verbum signoque et nomine meis solitis et consuetis signavi in fidem et testimonium omnium et singulorum premisorum rogatus et requisitus. El qual dicho traslado fue corregido e concertado por mi el notario infra escripto, conla dicha escriptura original onde fue sacado enla muy noble e muy leal çibdad de Sevilla, Jueves treyn ta dias del mes de diziembre, anno dela natividad del nuestro Señor Jesu Christo de mill e quinientos e doss años. Testi-

P. Ruys Montana, Notario Apostolico.

E yo Pero Ruys Montana clerigo de Cordova, notario apostolico, que a todo e cada cosa delo contenido enesta escritura de pargamino del nuestro muy santo padre, en uno conlos dichos testigos presente fuy e lo vy e en nota lo reçiby e por otro fiel mente lo fys escrevir ocupado de otros negocios e deste mi acostunbrado sygno lo subsygne en fe e testymonio de verdad, rogado e requerido.

Pero Rruis de Montana notario.

ESTE es treslado bien e fiel mente sacado de una declaratoria e dos çedulas e una carta mensagera del Rey e dela Reyna nuestros Señores escriptas enpapel e firmadas de sus reales nonbres, segund por ellas paresçia, su thenor delas quales una enpos de otra es este que se sigue.

El Rey e la Reyna.

§ LO que nos declaramos e mandamos que se faga enlas cosas de fazienda tocantes a Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano.

§ Primera mente que enlo que toca ala contribucion dela ochava parte delas mercaderias que nos agora mandamos enbiar alas dichas yslas e tierra firme, e las que yran de aqui adelante, que el dicho Almirante poniendo la ochava parte delas tales mercaderias o dando la estimacion dellas, sacadas primero las costas e gastos que enello se fizieren, aya para sy la ochava parte del provecho que delas dichas mercaderias se oviere, conforme a la capitulacion que conel esta fecha que sobre esto dispone.

§ Otrosy por quanto

el Comendador Bobadilla tomo ensi çierto oro e joyas e otros bienes muebles e rayses e somovientes que el dicho Almirante tenia enla ysla Española, porque aquello es fruto e renta delas dichas Yndias, mandamos que ante de todas cosas, se paguen delas dichas cosas que le fueron tomadas las costas e gastos e sueldos que fueren devidos e se ovieren fecho, desde que el dicho Almirante postrima vez fue alas Yndias el año de noventa e ocho, desque fue llegado enla ysla Española, por que aunque aquello por la capitulacion es a cargo del dicho Almirante pero entiendese, para que lo aya depagar delo que delas dichas Indias se adquieriese, e delo que restare pagado lo suso dicho se faga una suma, e fechas diez partes, las nueve seran para nos, e la dezena parte para el dicho Almirante, e delas dichas nueve partes, nos paguemos los sueldos e costas e gastos que se han fecho e se devieren fasta el dicho viaje que se fizo el año de noventa e ocho que el Almirante fue enla dicha ysla Española, por quanto nos le fezimos merçed dela parte que le

THIS IS a transcript well and faithfully taken from a declaration and two warrants and a missive letter of the King and Queen our Lords, written on paper, and signed with their royal names, as by them appeared, the tenor whereof, one after the other, is as follows.

The King and the Queen.

WHAT we declare and command to be done in the matters of property belonging to Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean.

Firstly, that in what concerns the contribution of the eighth part of the merchandise which we now command to be sent to the said islands and mainland, and of that which shall go from henceforth, the said Admiral, upon his supplying the eighth part of such merchandise or giving the value thereof, after the costs and expenses which shall be incurred therein shall have been first deducted, may have for himself the eighth part of the profit which shall be derived from the said merchandise, conformably to the capitulation dealing with this matter which has been made with him.

Likewise, forasmuch as the Commander Bobadilla took for himself certain gold and jewels and other moveable goods, landed property, and live stock, which the said Admiral held in the island of Hispaniola, because it is the produce and revenue of the said Indies, we command that first of all there be paid from the said things which were taken from him the costs and expenses and wages which shall be due and shall have been expended since the said Admiral went last time to the Indies in the year ninety-eight, after he arrived in the island of Hispaniola; for although, by the capitulation, that [outlay] is at the charge of the said Admiral, yet it is understood that he is to pay the same out of what may be obtained from the said Indies; and of what shall remain, after the abovesaid has been paid, let a total be made, and ten parts having been formed, nine shall be for us and the tenth for the said Admiral; and out of the said nine parts we will pay the wages, costs and expenses which have been laid out and shall be due until the said voyage which was made in the year ninety-eight, when the Admiral was in the said island of Hispaniola; forasmuch as we made him a grant of that part of the said expenses for which he

Este es y es la d. h. e. Al. fid. men. x. p. cab.
 de una declaracion e de of. adulas. Al. una ca. m.
 p. p. de l. y. e. d. l. l. y. y. n. o. s. d. m. o. r. e. r. o. p. a. r. o. e. n. p. a. p. l.
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 r. e. s. s. i. a. q. u. i. f. u. e. d. i. a. s. q. u. a. l. e. s. u. n. a. e. n. p. o. s. d. e. o. p. a. r. e. r. o. q. u. i.
 e. s. i. g. n. e. r. 2

Al l. y. e. l. l. y. n. a

Lo q. nos declaramos al m. d. m. o. s. q. e. f. i. g. u. e. a. l. l. a. s. a. s. p. e.
 d. f. i. s. i. e. n. d. a. t. o. c. i. e. n. d. o. d. i. b. n. x. p. o. n. e. l. a. l. o. n. n. r. o. a. l. m. y. r. a. t. e. d. l.
 m. a. z. (o. c. e. a. n. o.).

Prima ment. q. en lo q. toca a la cotribucion d. l. o. o. t. h. a. n. a. p. t. e.
 d. l. a. s. m. e. r. c. a. d. e. r. i. a. s. q. n. o. s. a. g. o. r. a. m. a. d. a. m. o. s. e. a. l. l. a. s. d. l. a. s. d. f. e. s.
 y. o. l. a. s. e. n. t. e. f. i. r. m. e. r. . O. l. l. a. s. q. y. r. a. d. e. c. a. j. a. d. h. i. n. t. . O. l. d. i. h. o.
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 e. d. u. b. l. a. e. s. t. i. m. a. c. i. o. n. d. l. l. a. s. . S. a. c. a. d. a. s. p. r. i. m. o. l. a. s. c. o. s. t. a. s. e.
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O. t. o. y. p. o. r. q. u. i. o. Al. a. n. i. z. b. o. n. a. d. i. l. l. a. t. o. m. o. e. n. s. i. c. i. e. r. o. (o. r. o. e.
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 e. t. e. n. e. r. d. l. a. s. d. f. e. s. y. n. d. i. a. s. m. a. n. d. a. m. o. s. q. a. n. i. d. e. t. o. d. a. s. q. u. i. e. n. t. e.
 p. a. g. a. r. d. l. a. s. d. i. c. h. a. s. c. o. s. t. a. s. q. l. e. f. u. e. r. o. t. o. m. a. b. o. l. e. s. a. d. o. n. e. e.
 g. a. s. t. o. s. e. s. u. e. l. l. o. s. q. f. u. e. r. e. d. i. u. i. d. o. s. e. p. o. d. i. e. r. e. f. a. c. i. l. . d. e. l. e.
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- cabia dlos dñs gastos. El dñs alñy dñs dñs Gen
 part vague. lo q se averiguare q denjere particularmer
 a algunas personas como almirante. 2
- r. Oten q en qñs dlos ganados q de dñs se han llenado de
 mñs avia. como Cera q se comio la dñs capitulacion q a dñs
 donna las costas e gastos q allos se han fuso. e dñs se
 tñm el dñs almirante a dñs de aver le. Genia part
 porle fasci mñd mandamos q se pñm las dñs costas
 e gastos le sea acudido en la dñs Genia pr. dñs dñs
 ganados e parados e por parados q allos se ha avia e
 las mñe pñs q en e fñque parados. Vaya oñs que
 se pñm a dñs en esta plana. 2
- r. Oten mñdamos q se pñm tornados e fñstuy dñs. todos
 los atañes de dñs donna e dñs e bastimēds de pñm como
 q amñs boua dilla le tomo. oñs iusta estimacion qñ
 q nos ayamos de dñs pr alguna dñs. 2
- r. Oten q por qñs el dñs amñs boua dilla entre otras cosas
 q tomo al dñs dñs. le tomo cierta cantidad de pñm q
 era de mñs dñs mñs mñs dñs q tiene parte de oro
 mñdamos de mñs gñnciados dñs dñs yohis q se tñba
 de dñs de dñs amñdado boua dilla en mñm. qñs
 dñs q tñmance era e dñs fñgu fñstuyt para q se par
 tado e dñs en la mñs que dñs. 2
- r. Oten mñdamos q se pñm fñstuydas de dñs almirante
 de yeguas e dñs que al dñs alñy adro de dñs labrad
 en las pñms de dñs canellos al dñs alñy tenya. Vno
 q adro de gñnciados. e otro que ouo dñs yeguas.
 Se tomo el dñs amñs boua dilla. oñs iusta estimacion
 qñ q nos ayamos de dñs pr alguna dñs. 2
- r. Oten por qñs de dñs alñy dñs q se tñba agranyo en
 no pñm de dñs capitane e ofñcals dñs nanyos q
 nos agora mñdamos qñ ala yñta rodando. q se dñs
 la dñs capitulacion de dñs q dñs de pñm. dñm q
 por q ya esta pñm por mñd mñd. los dñs capitane
 de ofñcals. q de dñs mñdamos q se pñm en
 fñm ala dñs capitulacion. 2

was liable. And the said Admiral shall pay from the said tenth part whatever it shall be proved that he owes individually to any persons, as Admiral.

Item, that in respect to the cattle which were taken from hence at our cost, although, according to the said capitulation, the costs and expenses which have been incurred therein were to be deducted, and out of the remainder the said Admiral was to have the tenth part, nevertheless, in order to show him favour, we command that, without deducting the said costs and expenses, there be rendered to him the tenth part of the said cattle, and first and second young which have been obtained therefrom; and the nine parts shall remain and fall to us.—Let it be valid where it says que written over an erasure on this page.

Item, we command that there be returned and restored to him all the garniture of his person and household, and provisions of corn and wine, which the Commander Bobadilla took from him, or their just value, without our having to receive any part thereof.

Item, that forasmuch as the said Commander Bobadilla, among other things which he took from the said Admiral, took from him a certain quantity of stones, which were from the source from whence the gold comes, and which contain a portion of gold; we command our Governor of the said islands to receive a declaration upon oath from the said Commander Bobadilla of their number and sizes, and to cause them to be restored to him, in order that they may be divided and distributed in the manner aforesaid.

Item, we command to be restored to the said Admiral two mares with their foals, which the said Admiral bought from a husbandman in the Indies, and two horses which the said Admiral possessed, one of which he bought from Corvalan, and the other he had from his mares, which the said Commander Bobadilla took from him, or their just value, without his being bound to give us any part thereof.

Item, forasmuch as the said Admiral states that he suffers injury in that he does not appoint captains and officers to the ships which we are now ordering to go to the island of Hispaniola, whom he alleges that he was to appoint according to the said capitulation, we declare that since the said captains and officers have been already appointed by our command, we will in future order appointments to be made conformably to the said capitulation.

Comendador Bobadilla entre otras cosas que tomo al dicho Almirante, le tomo cierta cantidad de piedras que eran del nacimiento donde nace el oro que tienen parte de oro, mandamos al nuestro Governador delas dichas yslas que reciba declaracion del dicho Comendador Bobadilla con juramento, quantas e que tamanas eran e gelas fagan restituyr para que separtan e devidan enla manera que dicha es.

§ Yten mandamos que sean restituydas al dicho Almirante dos yeguas con sus crias que el dicho Almirante conpro de un labrador en las Indias e dos cavallos que el dicho Almirante tenia, uno que conpro de Gorvalan, e otro que ovo desus yeguas, que le tomo el dicho Comendador Bobadilla, o su justa estimacion syn que nos aya de dar parte alguna dello.

§ Yten por quanto el dicho Almirante dize que recibe agravio en no proveer el de capitanes e oficiales delos navios que nos agora mandamos yr ala ysla Española, que segund la dicha capitulacion el dise que avia deproveer, desymos que porque ya esta proveydo por nuestro mandado, los dichos capitanes e oficiales, que adelante mandaremos que seprovea conforme ala dicha capitulacion.

cabia delos dichos gastos. E el dicho Almirante dela dicha dezena parte paguc, lo que se averiguare que deviere particularmente a algunas personas como Almirante.

§ Yten que en quanto alos ganados que de aca se han llevado a nuestra costa, como quiera que segund la dicha capitulacion se avian sacar las costas e gastos que enello se han fecho, e delo restante el dicho Almirante avia de aver la dezena parte por le fazer merced mandamos que syn sacar las dichas costas e gastos le sea acudido conla dezena parte, delos dichos ganados e partos e pos partos que dello[s] seban avido e las nueve partes queden e finquen para nos. Vala o dis que escripto sobre raydo en esta plana.

§ Yten mandamos que le sean tornados e restituydos, todos los atavios desu persona e casa e bastimentos de pan e vino que el Comendador Bobadilla le tomo, o su justa estimacion syn que nos ayamos de aver parte alguna dello.

§ Yten que por quanto el dicho Co-

§ Yten declaramos e mandamos que el dicho Almirante pueda traer de aquí adelante cada año dela ysla Española ciento e bonze quintales de brasil, por razon dela desena parte que ha de aver, a respeto delos mill quintales de brasil que se ha de dar cada año por nuestro mandado, alos mercaderes con quien esta fecho asiento sobre ello, porque por el asiento que se tomo conlos dichos mercaderes esta azeptada su parte, delo qual goze el dicho Almirante por el tienpo contenido enel dicho asyento delos dichos mercaderes, e despues dela desena parte de lo que se sacare.

§ Yten que por quanto el Almirante dise que el Comendador Bobadilla ha pagado algunas debdas de sueldo, e otras cosas enla dicha ysla Española, a algunas personas a quien no se devia sueldo nin otra cosa alguna, segund pareçera por los libros delos dichos oficiales, e se podra provar e mostrar, mandamos que sy oviere pagado a personas a quien no se devia sueldo ni cosa alguna que el dicho Almirante non sea obligado a pagar lo semejante.

§ Ytem por quanto el dicho Comendador Bobadilla tomo alos hermanos del dicho Almirante cierta cantidad de oro e joyas, por que aquello fue adquirido por ellos, como por quien tenia governacion delas dichas Yndias, de todo aquello se fagan dies partes, e la desena parte aya el Almirante, e las nueve queden e finquen para nos, e que en quanto alos atavios e mantenimientos e conucos e casas que tenian, e el oro que ovieron de cosas que avian vendido suyas, provandolo que fue desta condiçion, que aunque aquello tengamos algund derecho, nos les fazemos merçed de todo ello para que fagan dello como de cosa suya propia.

§ Yten es nuestra merçed e voluntad que el dicho Almirante tenga enla dicha ysla Española persona que entienda enlas cosas de su fazienda e reçiba lo que el oviere de aver, e que sea, Alonso Sanches de Carvajal continuo de nuestra casa, e que el dicho Alonso Sanches de Carvajal, por parte del dicho Almirante este presente con nuestro veedor a ver fundir e marcar el oro que enlas dichas yslas e tierra firme se oviere, e con nuestro factor entienda enlas cosas dela negoçiacion delas dichas mercaderias. E mandamos al nuestro Governador e Contador e Justicias e oficiales que agora son o fueren delas dichas yslas e tierra firme, que cumplan e fagan guardar

Item, we declare and command that the said Admiral may from henceforth bring yearly from the island of Hispaniola one hundred and eleven quintals of brasil, on account of the tenth part which he is to have in respect of the thousand quintals of brasil, which is to be given yearly, by our command, to the merchants with whom an agreement has been made thereupon, because, by the agreement which was made with the said merchants, his portion is excepted; which [number] the said Admiral enjoys for the term contained in the said agreement of the said merchants; and afterwards [he shall enjoy] the tenth part of what shall be obtained.

Item, that forasmuch as the Admiral declares that the Commander Bobadilla has paid some debts of wages and other things in the said island of Hispaniola to some persons to whom neither wages nor anything else was owing, as will appear by the books of the said officers, and can be proved and shown; we command that if he shall have made payments to persons to whom neither wages nor anything else was due, the said Admiral shall not be obliged to pay the same.

Item, forasmuch as the said Commander Bobadilla took from the brothers of the said Admiral a certain quantity of gold and jewels, because it was acquired by them as by an administrator of the government of the said Indies; let ten parts be made of the whole, and the Admiral shall have the tenth part, and the nine parts shall remain and fall to us; and in respect to the furniture, provisions, plantations and houses which they held, and the gold which they possessed for things of their own which they had sold, upon proving that it was of this nature, although we have some right thereto, we make them a gift of the whole of it, so that they may dispose thereof as of their own property.

Item, it is our will and pleasure that the said Admiral shall keep in the said island of Hispaniola a person who shall attend to the affairs of his property and receive what he ought to have, and that it shall be Alonso Sanches de Carvajal, Continio of our household; and that the said Alonso Sanches de Carvajal, on behalf of the said Admiral, shall be present with our Inspector to view the melting and marking of the gold which shall be obtained in the said Indies; and shall, with our factor, attend to the transaction of the affairs of the said merchandise. And we command our Governor, and Accountant, and Justices and officers who are now, or shall be, of the said islands and mainland, to fulfil and cause to be observed

what is abovesaid, in so far as it shall be our will and pleasure, and, upon the said Alonso Sanches de Carbajal showing sufficient authority from the said Admiral, to render to him the portion of the gold which shall belong to him on account of the tenth in the said island, after the costs and expenses have been deducted, and also the profit on the merchandise for the eighth part which the said Admiral shall show that he contributed to the cost thereof.

Item, forasmuch as the said Admiral has farmed out the offices of Bailiff and Notary of the said island of Hispaniola for a certain term, we command that the moneys and whatever the said offices shall have produced and been worth shall be divided into ten parts, nine to be for us and one for the said Admiral, first of all deducting the costs and expenses of the said officers; and because the person who held the said notaryship was not obliged to give a fixed sum for it, we command that upon being paid for his labour he is to render all that he has received, in order that it may be divided, as aforesaid.—Let it be valid where it says por el, which is written over an erasure on this page.

Item, that they return to him the books and writings which were taken from him; and if any of them shall be required for the administration, let there be drawn a transcript signed by a public scribe, and let the originals be delivered to him, as aforesaid.

Item, that in what concerns freight and provisions, the said Carbajal is to enjoy the whole of it, according and in the same manner as our other officers shall enjoy [the like].

All that is aforesaid, and every article and portion thereof, we command you, our Governor and our Accountant, and other officers, and justices, and persons of the said islands and mainlands, so to perform and fulfil, in everything and by everything, as it is contained above. And in fulfilling it, you are to give and deliver to the said Admiral and his brothers, and to anyone who shall have his procuration, the things abovesaid, without any impediment being offered to him therein. And you shall not act contrary hereto. Done in Granada, on the twenty-seventh day of September, in the year one thousand five hundred and one. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen, Gaspar de Grizío.

The King and the Queen.

Commander de Lares, our Governor of the Indies: We have

§ Yten que le buelvan los libros e escripturas que le fueron tomados, e sy de algunos dellos oviere necesidad para la negociacion, se saque un traslado sygnado de escrivano publico e sele entreguen los originales como diebo es.

§ Yten que enlo que toea al flete e mantenimientos, gose el dicho Carvajal de todo ello, segund e como gosaren los otros nuestros oficiales.

§ Lo qual todo que diebo es e cada cosa e parte dello, mandamos a vos el nuestro Governador e nuestro Contador e otros oficiales e justicias e personas delas diebas yslas e tierras firmes que asy fagays e cumplays entodo e por todo como de suso se contiene e en eumpliendolo deys e entregueys al diebo Almirante e sus hermanos e a quien su poder oviere las cosas suso dichas, synque enello le sea puesto ynpedimiento alguno. E non fagades ende al. Fecha en Granada, a reynte e syete dias de setiembre de mill e quinientos e uno años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Gaspar de Grizío.

El Rey e la Reyna.

§ COMENDADOR de Lares, nuestro Governador delas Yndias, nos avemos

lo suso diebo, en quanto nuestra merced e voluntad fuere, e que mostrando el diebo Alonso Sanches de Carvajal, poder bastante del dicho Almirante, le aendan enla parte del oro que le pertenesçiere, por rason del diezmo enla dieba ysla sacadas las eostas e gastos, e conel provecho de mercaderias por el oebava parte, que mostrare el diebo Almirante aver puesto enla costa dello.

§ Yten por quanto el diebo Almirante ovo arendado los ofçios de algaliladgo e eserivania dela dicha ysla Española, por cierto tienpo, mandamos que los maravedis, e lo que los diebos ofçios avran rentado e valido se fagan diez partes, las nueve sean para nos e la una para el diebo Almirante, saeando primera mente las eostas e gastos, delos diebos oficiales. E por que el que tenia la dieba eserivania no estava obligado a dar por ello cosa cierta, mandamos que satisfeebo desu trabajo, acuda eontodo lo que ha avido, para que se parta como dicho es. Vala o dis por el que va escripto sobre raydo enesta plana.

mandado e declarado la orden que se ha de tener en lo que se ha de fazer con Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano e sus hermanos, cerca delas cosas, que el Comendador Bobadilla les tomo, e sobre la forma que se ha de tener en el acudir al dicho Almirante con la parte del diezmo e ochavo que ha de aver de los bienes muebles delas yslas e tierra firme del dicho mar oceano, e delas mercaderias que nos de aca enbiaremos, segund vereys por la dicha nuestra declaracion e mandamiento firmado de nuestros nonbres que sobre ello, les mandamos dar. Por ende nos vos mandamos, que veays la dicha declaracion, e conforme a ella les fagays entregar los dichos sus bienes, e acudir al dicho Almirante, con lo que le pertenece dello suso dicho, por manera que el dicho Almirante, e sus hermanos, o quien su poder oviere, sean de todo ello entregados. E sy el oro e otras cosas que asy el dicho Comendador Bobadilla les tomo, los oviere gastado o vendido, vos mandamos que selo fagays luego pagar. Lo que fue gastado en nuestro servijo seles pague de nuestra fazienda, e lo que el dicho Comendador Bobadilla oviere gastado en sus cosas proprias seles pague de los bienes e fazienda del dicho Comendador, e non fagades ende al. Fecha en Granada, a veynte e ocho dias del mes de Setiembre de mill e quinientos e uno años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Gaspar de Grizio.

commanded and declared the order that is to be observed in what has to be done towards Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean, and his brothers, respecting the things which Commander Bobadilla took from them, and in regard to the form which is to be observed in rendering to the said Admiral the portion of the tenth and eighth which he is to receive from the moveable goods of the islands and mainland of the said Ocean, and from the merchandise which we shall send from hence, as you will see by our said declaration and command signed with our names, which we do command to be given them thereupon. Therefore we charge you to inspect the said declaration, and to cause their said goods to be delivered to them conformably thereto, and to render to the said Admiral what belongs to him of the abovesaid, in such wise that the said Admiral and his brothers, or whoever shall have his procuration, may obtain the whole thereof. And if the gold and other things, which the said Commander Bobadilla thus took from them, shall have been spent or sold by him, we command you to cause them to be paid therefor at once. What was spent in our service is to be paid to them out of our property, and what the said Commander Bobadilla shall have spent on his own affairs is to be paid to them out of the goods and property of the said Commander. And you shall not do contrary hereto. Done in Granada, on the twenty-eighth day of the month of September, in the year one thousand five hundred and one. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen, Gaspar de Grizio.

The King and the Queen.

XIMENO de Briviesca: We have ordered an agreement to be made with Don Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the Ocean, that in all the merchandise which shall be conveyed to the Indies he may supply the eighth part, and may enjoy the eighth part that shall be gained thereon, according as you will see by an agreement that has been made with him, signed with our names. Therefore we command you to give him account and copy of all that the merchandise amounts to, which we do now command to be conveyed to the said Indies, in order that, if he shall desire, he may supply the said eighth part thereof, which you are to receive in our name from the said Admiral, or from the person who shall have his procuration, and to give him a receipt for it; and receive it in money or in merchandise, as it shall seem good to him or to the person who shall have his procuration. And if he shall pay it in money,

El Rey e la Reyna.

§ **XIMENO** de Briviesca, nos avemos mandado tomar asyento con Don Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante del mar oceano, que entodas las mercaderias que se llevaren alas Yndias, ponga la ochava parte, e gose dela ochava parte, que se ganare enellas, segund vereys por un asyento que se ha tomado con el firmado de nuestros nonbres. Porende nos vos mandamos que le deys rason e copia de todo lo que montan las mercaderias que agora mandamos llevar alas dichas Indias, para que sy quisiere, ponga enellas la dicha ochava parte, la qual recebid vos en nuestro nonbre del dicho Almirante, o de quien su poder oviere, e le dad carta de pago dello, e recebidlo en dinero o en las mercaderias que ael o a quien su poder oviere le paresciere. E sy en dinero lo pagare,

teneo en vos. los mps q enllo mature. qe q dandays
oullro. Ayen nos vos mandaremos. e a fmed la ffa
de ad ello en los libros que vos teneys para q alli
averigue lo q oviere de aver de prouehi. Al no fagades
ende al. ffe en qnada. a deynr e dme dms el mes
de ortie sube de mill e conyete e bno amor. yo de
el Rey la Reyna. por mandado del Rey. e de la Reyna
separ de giso. 2

Al Rey e la Reyna

Don Xpoual colow nro almirante de las yslas de trra firme
q son en el mar oceano de la parte de las yndias. vimos vna let
de deynr e deynr de febrero. y las q vnella enbiaste. y los me
morales q nos diste. y alo q deys que para este viage
aque days querrades por la ispanola. ya os dexamos
que ariqne nos fuso. q para este viage aque dgoz days
de pierda tzo alguno. en vdo nro days por este otro camino
q alla buelta plaziend dios de os pareciere q pora mas
dies boluez por dlli e pasada. para de teneros por. por
q como de des comecina q buelva vos de viage de q agora days
gramos luego ynformados de vos en persona de todo lo q cul
oujerdes fallado. y ffe. para que a vdo pareay y onde lo p
veamos sobrello lo q mas cumpla ante dny. y las ddes ne
gropes para el fegar de an q prouee. 2

Al qz vos enbiastes la ynstructio de q plaziend ante dny
a deys de ffor en este viage. y alo q deys de portugal. nos
rominos sobrello de el Rey de portugal nro ffo. lo q adien
y vos enbiastes la carta nra q deys para qn capitā. en
gle fosemos sobz. vna y da fasia de poner. y que a des
sobz en y da fasia de lleuante. q en enany no estopardo
vos trateys los vnos de los otros como amigos. y como es la
zon de trra capitanes y gentes de ffeys entre Genay
tuno de de amor y amistad. visible glo nro ademos
mandado a vos. y procuraremos quel Rey de portugal nro
fyo. rom otrial carta de el dho capitā. 2

Allo q nos duplicays q ayamos arie. que llenays con
de

you are to retain the moneys which it shall amount to, in order that you may render them to whomsoever we shall command you; and enter the account of the whole in the books which you keep, in order that what he shall have to receive of the profit may thereby be ascertained. And you shall not do contrary hereto. Done in Granada, on the twenty-seventh day of the month of September in the year one thousand five hundred and one. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen. Gaspar de Grizio.

The King and the Queen.

WON Christopher Columbus, our Admiral of the islands and mainland which are in the Ocean in the region of the Indies: We have seen your letter of the twenty-sixth of February, and those which you sent therewith, and the memorials which you gave us; and in respect to your saying that in this voyage upon which you are going, you would wish to go by way of Hispaniola, we have already told you that, as it is not advisable that in this voyage, whereon you are now going, any time should be lost, you are to go, in any case, by this other way; but on your return, God willing, if it shall appear to you to be necessary, you may return by passing there, but only to stay for a short time, because, as you see, it will be convenient that when you have returned from the voyage upon which you are now going, we should be immediately informed by you in person of all that you shall have discovered and performed therein, in order that by your opinion and advice we may provide thereupon what may best fulfil our service, and that the things needful for hatter may be provided from hence.

Herewith we send you the instruction as to what, if it please our Lord, you are to do in this voyage; and in respect to what you say about Portugal, we have written thereon to the King of Portugal, our son, what is appropriate, and we herewith send you our letter, which you requested for his captain, wherein we inform him of your departure for the west, and that we have been informed of his departure for the east, in order that if you meet on the way you may treat one another as friends, and as it is fitting that captains and subjects of kings, between whom there is such great kinship, love and friendship, should treat one another, telling him that we have given the same command to you; and we will procure that the King of Portugal, our son, shall write a similar letter to his said captain.

Respecting your petition to us to permit you to take with you on

sario, podeis bolver por alli de pasada, para deleneros poco, por que come vedes converka que buuelto vos del viage aque agora vays seamos luego ynformados de vos en persona de todo lo que enel oviendes fallado, y fecho, para que con vuestro parecer y consejo proveamos sobre ello lo que mas cumpla a nuestro servicio, y las cosas necesarias para el resgate de aca se proveen.

§ Aqui vos enbiamos la ynstruction delo que plaziendo a nuestro Señor aveys de faser eneste viage, y alo que desys de Portugal, nos escrivimos sobre ello al Rey de Portugal nuestro fijo, lo que conviene y vos enbiamos aqui la carta nuestra que desys para su capitan, en que le fazemos saber vuestra yda fazia el poniente, y que avemos sabido su yda fazia el levante, que sy encamino os topardes vos trateys los unos alos otros como amigos, y como es razon dese tratar capitanes y gentes de Reyes entre quien ay tanto debdo amor y amistad, diziendole que lo mismo avemos mandado a vos, y procuraremos que el Rey de Portugal nuestro hijo, escriva otra tal carta al dicho su capitan.

§ Alo que nos suplicays que ayamos por bien, que lleveys con

tened en vos, los maravedis que enello montare, para que acudays conellos, a quien nos vos mandaremos, e asentad la rason de todo ello enlos libros que vos teneys para que alli se averigue lo que oviere de aver del provecho. E non fagades ende al. Fecha en Granada, a veynte e syete dias del mes de setiembre de mill e quinientos e uno años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey, e dela Reyna, Gaspar de Grizio.

El Rey e la Reyna.

§ DON Christoval Colon nuestro Almirante delas yslas e tierra firme que son enel mar oceano ala parte delas Yndias. Vimos vuestra letra de veynte e seys de febrero, y las que conella enbiastes, y los memoriales que nos distes, y alo que desys que para este viage aque vays querriades pasar por la Española, ya os deximos que porque no es razon, que para este viage aque agora vays se pierda tienpo alguno, cntodo caso vays por este otro camino que ala buelta plaziendo a Dios sy os paresciere que sera nece-

este viage a Don Fernando vuestro fijo, y quela raçion que sele da, quede a Don Diego vuestro fijo, a nos plaze dello.

§ Alo que desys que querriades llevar uno o dos que sepan aravigo, a nos plaze dello, contal que por ello nos[noos] detengays.

§ Alo que desys que que parte dela ganancia se dara ala gente que va con vos en esos navios, dezimos que vayan dela manera que han ydo los otros.

§ Las diez mill pieças de moneda que desys, se acordo que no se fiziesen por este viage fasta que mas se vea.

§ Dela polvora e artilleria que demandays, vos avemos ya mandado proveer como vereys.

§ Lo que desys que no podistes hablar al doctor Angulo y al licenciado Capata a cabsa dela partida, escrivid nos lo muy larga e particular mente.

§ Quanto alo otro contenido en vuestros memoriales y letras, tocante a vos y a vuestros fijos y hermanos, porque como vedes a cabsa que nos estamos encamino y

vos de partida nose puede entender enello fasta que paremos de asiento en alguna parte, e sy esto oviesedes de esperar se perderia el viage aque agora vays. Por esto es mejor que pues de todo lo necesario para vuestro viage estays despachado, vos partays luego syn detenimiento alguno, y quede a vuestro fijo el cargo de solicitar lo contenido en los dichos memoriales. Y tened por çierto que de vuestra prision nos peso mucho, y bien lo vistes vos y lo conoscoieron todos clara mente pues que luego quelo sopimos lo mandamos remediar, y sabey el favor conque os avemos mandado tratar siempre, y agora estamos mucho mas en vos honrrar y tratar muy bien, y las merçedes que vos tenemos fechas vos seran guardadas entera mente, segund forma y tenor de nuestros privilegios que dellas teneys, syn yr encosa contra ellas, y vos y vuestros fijos gozareys dellas como es razon, y si necesario fuere confirmarlas de nuevo las confirmaremos, y a vuestro fijo mandaremos poner en la posesyon de todo ello. Y en mas que esto tenemos voluntad de vos honrrar y fazer merçedes, y de vuestros fijos y hermanos, nos ternemos el cuydado que es razon, y todo esto se podra fazer yendo vos en buen ora, y quedando el cargo a vuestro fijo, como esta dicho.

this voyage your son Don Ferdinand, and that the allowance which is given to him may devolve upon your son Don Diego, we approve thereof.

Respecting what you say about wishing to take one or two persons who know Arabic, we approve thereof, provided that you do not incur delay thereby.

Respecting what you say about part of the gain being given to the people who go with you in those ships, we answer that they are to go in the same manner as the others have gone.

As to the ten thousand pieces of money which you mention, it has been agreed that they should not be made for this voyage until more is seen.

The powder and artillery that you ask for we have already ordered to be furnished to you, as you will see.

Respecting your statement that you could not speak to Doctor Angulo and the Licenciado Capata on account of your departure, write to us very fully and in detail.

With regard to the other contents of your memorials and letters respecting yourself, and your sons and brothers, because, as you see, we are on a journey and you are about to depart, it cannot be attended to until we take up our residence in some place, and if you should have to wait for that, the voyage upon which you are now going would be lost; therefore it is better that, since you are despatched with everything necessary for your voyage, you should set out at once, without any delay, and that the charge of soliciting what is contained in the said memorials should be left to your son. And rest assured that we were much distressed about your imprisonment, and you yourself perceived it clearly, and it was well known to all; for directly we were aware of it we ordered it to be remedied; and you know the favour with which we have always ordered you to be treated: and now we are much more inclined to honour and treat you very favourably, and the favours which we have conferred upon you shall be fully observed to you, according to the form and tenor of our privileges which you hold thereof, without being contravened in anything, and you and your sons shall enjoy them, as is just. And if it shall be necessary to confirm them anew, we will confirm them; and we will command that your son be put in possession of the whole. And beyond this we have the will to honour you and confer favours upon you; and of your sons and brothers we shall have such care as is just. And all this it will be possible to do if you set out speedily and the charge is left to your son, as has been said.

este viage d. don fernand v. ro fijo. y d. l. f. f. q. r. de da. q. d.
 d. don diego v. ro fijo. anos y l. e. d. l. e. 2.

r d. lo que d. roys que querria de llenar vno o d. f. q. r. p. a. r. a. u. i. g. o. d.
 nos y l. e. d. l. e. o. t. a. l. q. p. o. r. e. l. l. o. n. o. s. d. t. e. n. g. a. y. s. 2.

r d. lo q. d. roys que que parte d. l. i. t. a. n. a. g. i. a. d. e. d. a. r. a. d. l. a. g. e. n. t. que va
 con vos en esos navios. d. q. m. o. s. que vayan d. l. a. m. a. n. a. q. h. a. n.
 y d. los otros. 2.

r l. i. s. d. i. e. z. m. i. l. l. p. i. e. t. a. s. d. m. o. n. a. q. d. roys. d. d. a. r. d. q. n. o. p. o. s. s. i. n. o.
 p. o. r. e. s. t. e. v. i. a. g. e. f. a. s. t. a. q. m. a. s. d. v. e. a. 2.

r d. l. a. p. o. l. u. o. z. a. d. e. a. r. t. i. l. l. e. r. i. a. q. d. m. a. n. d. a. y. s. v. o. s. a. u. e. m. o. s. y. a. m. a.
 d. n. d. p. r. o. n. e. e. z. o. m. o. v. e. r. e. y. s. 2.

r L. o. q. d. roys q. n. o. p. o. d. i. s. t. e. s. f. a. b. l. i. z. d. l. d. u. t. t. o. r. a. n. g. u. l. o. y. a. l. l. i. c. e. n. a. n. d. o.
 c. a. p. i. t. a. a. c. a. b. e. r. d. l. o. p. a. r. t. i. d. a. i. o. n. y. d. n. o. s. l. o. m. u. y. l. a. r. g. a. e. p. a. r. t. i. a. n.
 l. a. z. m. e. n. t. 2.

r q. u. a. d. l. o. o. t. r. o. c. o. t. e. n. y. d. e. n. b. r. o. s. m. e. m. o. r. i. a. l. e. s. y. l. e. t. r. a. s. t. o. c. a. n. t.
 a. v. o. s. y. a. v. r. o. s. f. i. j. o. s. y. h. e. r. m. a. n. o. s. i. n. y. q. o. m. o. v. e. l. o. d. l. a. b. o. r.
 q. n. o. s. e. s. t. a. m. o. s. c. h. a. r. n. i. n. o. y. v. o. s. d. p. a. r. t. i. d. a. n. o. s. p. u. e. d. e. n. a. n. d. e.
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 v. a. y. s. i. n. y. e. s. t. o. e. s. m. e. j. o. r. q. p. u. e. s. d. t. o. d. l. o. m. a. g. i. s. t. r. o. p. a. r. a. v. r. o.
 v. i. n. g. e. e. s. t. a. y. s. d. e. p. a. s. a. d. o. v. o. s. p. a. r. t. a. y. s. l. u. e. g. o. d. y. n. d. t. e. n. y. m. e. a.
 a. l. g. u. n. o. y. q. d. a. v. r. o. f. i. j. o. d. l. t. a. r. g. o. d. d. o. l. i. c. i. t. a. z. l. o. c. o. t. e. n. y. d. e. n.
 l. o. s. d. h. o. s. m. e. m. o. r. i. a. l. e. s. y. t. e. n. e. d. p. o. r. q. i. e. r. a. q. d. v. i. a. d. p. r. i. d. i. o. n. o. s.
 " p. e. s. o. m. u. n. h. o. y. b. i. e. n. l. o. v. i. s. t. e. s. v. o. s. y. l. o. c. o. n. s. i. e. r. o. t. u. d. o. s. c. h. i. r. a. m. e. a.
 " p. l. u. e. s. q. l. u. e. g. o. d. l. o. s. o. p. i. n. o. s. l. o. m. a. n. d. a. m. o. s. l. e. m. e. d. i. a. r. y. p. o. d. e. y. s.
 " d. l. e. f. a. v. o. r. o. m. y. o. s. a. d. o. m. o. s. m. i. n. d. a. d. y. a. t. a. z. S. i. e. m. p. y. a. s. o. r. a. e. s.
 " t. a. m. o. s. m. u. n. h. o. m. a. s. e. n. v. o. s. h. o. n. r. a. z. y. t. r. a. t. a. z. m. u. y. b. i. e. y. l. a. s. m. o. d. o.
 " q. v. o. s. t. e. n. e. m. o. s. f. e. c. h. a. s. v. o. s. S. e. r. a. c. o. n. i. d. a. d. a. s. e. n. t. e. r. a. m. e. n. t. d.
 " q. u. i. n. d. f. o. r. m. a. y. t. e. n. o. r. d. n. r. o. s. p. i. n. s. q. d. l. l. a. s. t. e. n. e. y. s. y. n. y. z.
 " e. n. a. g. e. c. o. t. r. a. e. l. l. a. s. y. v. o. s. y. v. r. o. s. f. i. j. o. s. g. o. s. a. r. e. y. s. d. l. l. a. s. o. m. o.
 " e. s. l. a. s. o. n. y. S. i. n. e. c. e. s. a. r. i. o. f. u. e. r. e. c. o. n. f. i. r. m. a. z. l. a. s. d. n. u. e. v. o. l. a. s. i. n.
 " f. i. r. m. a. r. e. m. o. s. y. a. v. r. o. f. i. j. o. m. a. n. d. a. r. e. m. o. s. p. o. n. e. r. e. n. l. a. p. o. s. t. e. r. o. d.
 t. o. d. e. l. l. o. y. e. n. m. a. s. q. e. s. t. o. t. e. n. e. m. o. s. v. o. l. u. n. t. a. d. d. v. o. s. h. o. n. r. a. z.
 y. f. a. c. e. r. m. u. d. o. y. d. v. r. o. s. f. i. j. o. s. y. s. e. n. a. n. t. e. n. o. s. t. e. n. e. m. o. s. d. l.
 a. n. y. d. u. l. q. e. s. f. a. z. y. t. o. d. e. s. t. o. p. o. d. r. a. f. a. z. e. r. y. e. n. d. v. o. s. e. n.
 l. u. e. o. z. a. y. q. d. n. u. n. d. e. l. c. a. r. g. o. a. v. r. o. f. i. j. o. a. n. n. o. e. s. t. a. d. h. o. p. i. n. o.



And so we entreat you that there may be no delay in your departure. From Valencia dela Torre, the fourteenth day of March, in the year [one thousand] five hundred and two. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen, Miguel Peres de Almagar. And on the dorse of the said letter was written the following: By the King and Queen, to Don Christopher Columbus, their Admiral of the islands and mainland which are in the Ocean in the region of the Indies.

Y asy vos rogamos que en vuestra partida no aya dilacion. De Valençia dela torre, a quatorze dias de março de quinientos e doss años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Por mandado del Rey e dela Reyna, Miguel Peres de Almagar. E en las espaldas dela dicha carta estava escripto lo siguiente, Por el Rey e la Reyna, a Don Christoval Colon su Almirante delas yslas e tierra firme, que son en el mar oceano ala parte delas Yndias.

This transcript was collated with the said original declaration and warrants and letter from which it was derived in the presence of the public scribes of Seville who marked and signed it with their names in testimony, in the said city of Seville, on the twenty-second day of the month of March, in the year of the nativity of our Saviour Jesus Christ one thousand five hundred and two. I, Gomes Nieto, scribe, of Seville, am witness []. I, Alfonso Lucas, scribe, of Seville, am witness [].

§ Este traslado fue conçertado con las

And I, Martin Rodriguez, public scribe, of Seville, caused this transcript to be written, and have here made my sign[], and am witness.

dichas declaratoria e çedulas e carta, originales onde fue sacado, en presençia delos escrivanos publicos de Sevilla, quelo sygno e firmaron de sus nonbres en testimonio en la dicha çibdad de Sevilla a veynte e dos dias del mes de março, año del nasçimiento de nuestro Salvador Jesu Christo de mill e quinientos e doss años.

Yo Gomes Nieto escrivano de Sevilla so testigo.[] Yo Alfonso Lucas escrivano de Sevilla soy testigo.[]

E yo Martin Rodriguez escrivano publico de Sevilla fis escrevir este traslado e fis aqui mio sig[] no e so testigo.

[NOTE.—*In the original CODEX the nine vellum leaves, numbered LIV to LXII, are, with the exception of the foliation, blank on both sides, as if Columbus had contemplated adding other documents.*]

[NOTE.—*In the original CODEX the nine vellum leaves, numbered LIV to LXII, are, with the exception of the foliation, blank on both sides, as if Columbus had contemplated adding other documents.*]

THE things prayed for, and which Your Highnesses give and grant to Don Christopher Columbus as some recompense for what he has discovered in the Oceans, and for the voyage which now, with the help of God, he has engaged to make therein in the service of Your Highnesses, are the following:

La Capitulación.
LAS cosas suplicas-
das e que Vuestras
Altezas dan e otor-
gan a Don Christoval
Colon en alguna satis-
fación dello que ha
descubierto en las
mares oceanas e del
viaje que agora con el
ayuda de Dios ha de
fazer, por ellas en
servicio de Vuestras
Altezas, son las que
se siguen.

§ Primera mente que
 Vuestras Altezas como
 Señores que son
 delas dichas mares
 oceanas fazen dende
 agora al dicho Don
 Christoval Colon su
 Almirante en todas
 aquellas yslas e tierra
 firme que por su
 mano e yndustria se
 descubrieran o gana-
 ran en las dichas
 mares oceanas para
 durante su vida e des-
 pues del muerto a
 sus herederos e sub-
 cesores de uno en otro
 perpetua mente con
 todas aquellas pre-
 beminencias e prer-
 rogatyvas pertene-
 cientes al tal oficio
 e segun que Don
 Alonso Enriques vus-
 tro Almirante Ma-
 yor de Castilla e los
 otros precesores en el
 dicho oficio lo tenían
 en sus distritos.
 Plaze a Sus Altezas.
 Juan de Coloma.

§ Otrosy que Vues-
 tras Altezas hazen al

dicho Don Christoval su Viso Rey e Governador General en todas las dichas yslas e tierra firme e yslas que como dicho es el descubriere o ganare en las dichas mares e que para el regimiento de cada una e qualquier dellas faga eleción de tres personas para cada oficio, y que Vuestras Altezas tomen y escojan uno el que mas fuere su servicio e asy seran mejor regidas las tierras que nuestro Señor le dexare fallar e ganar a servicio de Vuestras Altezas. Plaze a Su[s] Alteza[s]. Juan de Coloma.

§ Yten que todas e quales quier mercaderias sy quier sean perlas, piedras preciosas, oro, plata, espeçeria, y otras quales quier cosas e mercaderias de qual quier espeçie, nonbre e manera que se compraren, trocaren, fallaren, ganaren e ovieren dentro delos limites del dicho almirantazgo que dende agora Vuestras Altezas fazen merced al dicho Don Christoval, y quieren que aya, y lieve para sy la dezena parte de todo ello quitadas las cosas que se bizieren en ello por manera que dello que quedare lynnpio e libre aya e tome la decima parte para sy mismo e faga dello a su voluntad quedando las otras nueve partes para Vuestras Altezas. Plaze a Sus Altezas. Juan de Coloma.

§ Otrosy que sy a cabsa delas mercadurias que el trajera delas dichas yslas e tierra que asy como dicho es se ganaren o descubrieren o delas que en troque de aquellas se tomaren aca de otros mercaderes naciere plito alguno en el lugar donde el dicho comertio e trato se terna e fara que sy por la prebeminencia de su oficio de almirante le perteneciera conoçer del tal plito plega a Vuestra[s] Alteza[s] que el o su teniente e non otro juez conozca del tal plito e asy, lo provea dende agora. Plaze a Sus Altezas sy pertenece al dicho oficio de almirante segun que lo tenia el almirante Don Alonso Enriques e los otros sus subcesores en sus distritos e syendo justo. Juan de Coloma.

§ Yten que en todos los navios que se armaren para el dicho trato e negociaçion cada e quando e quantas vezes se armaren que pueda el dicho Don Christoval Colon sy quisyere contribuir e pagar la ochava parte de todo lo que se gastare en el amazon. E que

Firstly, that your Highnesses, as actual Lords of the said Oceans, appoint from this date the said Don Christopher Columbus to be your Admiral in all those islands and mainlands which by his activity and industry shall be discovered or acquired in the said oceans during his lifetime, and likewise, after his death, his heirs and successors one after another in perpetuity, with all the pre-eminences and prerogatives appertaining to the said office, and in the same manner as Don Alfonso Enriques, your High Admiral of Castile, and his predecessors in the said office held it in their districts.—It so pleases their Highnesses. John de Coloma.

Likewise, that Your Highnesses appoint the said Don Christopher to be your Viceroy and Governor General in all the said islands and mainlands and in the islands which, as aforesaid, he may discover and acquire in the said seas; and that for the government of each and any of them he may make choice of three persons for each office, and that Your Highnesses may select and choose the one who shall be most serviceable to you; and thus the lands which our Lord shall permit him to discover and acquire for the service of Your Highnesses, will be the better governed.—It so pleases their Highnesses. John de Coloma.

Item, that of all and every kind of merchandise, whether pearls, precious stones, gold, silver, spices and other objects and merchandise whatsoever, of whatever kind, name and sort, which may be bought, bartered, discovered, acquired and obtained within the limits of the said Admiralty, Your Highnesses grant from now henceforth to the said Don Christopher, and will that he may have and take for himself, the tenth part of the whole, after deducting all the expenses which may be incurred therein, so that of what shall remain clear and free he may have and take the tenth part for himself, and may do therewith as he pleases, the other nine parts being reserved for Your Highnesses.—It so pleases their Highnesses. John de Coloma.

Likewise, that if on account of the merchandise which he might bring from the said islands and lands which thus, as aforesaid, may be acquired or discovered, or of that which may be taken in exchange for the same from other merchants here, any suit should arise in the place where the said commerce and traffic shall be held and conducted; and if by the pre-eminence of his office of Admiral it appertains to him to take cognizance of such suit; it may please Your Highnesses that he or his deputy, and not another judge, shall take cognizance thereof and give judgment in the same from henceforth.—It so pleases their Highnesses, if it appertains to the said office of Admiral, according as it was held by Admiral Don Alfonso Enriques and others his successors in their districts, and if it be just. John de Coloma.

Item, that in all the vessels which may be equipped for the said traffic and business, each time and whenever and as often as they may be equipped, the said Don Christopher Columbus may, if he chooses, contribute and pay the eighth part of all that may be spent in the equipment, and that

[illegible][illegible]

i vto q' entos los indios q' se Armare p' el
 q' se traxo en el mto q' se traxo en el mto q' se traxo
 tus vros q' se Armare q' se traxo en el mto q' se traxo
 q' se traxo en el mto q' se traxo en el mto q' se traxo
 q' se traxo en el mto q' se traxo en el mto q' se traxo

Ambrósio de Almeida e do prouro da orfãna para o log
do Salto de Santa Armada para a S. A. J. m.
Volome 2

1. Simão Rodrigues de Almeida e do prouro da orfãna para o log
do Salto de Santa Armada para a S. A. J. m.
Volome 2

likewise he may have and take the eighth part of the profits that may result from such equipment. It so pleases their Highnesses. John de Coloma.

tambien aya e lieve del provecho la ocha-va parte delo que resultare dela tal armada. Plaze a Sus Altesas. Juan de Coloma.

These are granted and despatched, with the replies of Your Highnesses at the end of each article, in the town of Santa Fe de la Vega of Granada, on the seventeenth day of April in the year of the nativity of our Saviour Jesus Christ, one thousand four hundred and ninety-two. I the King. I the Queen. By command of the King and of the Queen. John de Coloma. Registered, Calçena.

§ Son otorgadas e despachadas con las respuestas de Vues-tras Altesas en fin de

cada un capitulo en la villa de Santa Fe dela Vega de Granada, a dies e syete dias de abril del año del nacimiento de nuestro Salvador Jesu Christo de mill e quatro çientos e noventa e dos años. Yo el Rey. Yo la Reyna. Juan de Coloma. Registrada. Calçena.

THAT WHICH appertains to the Admiral, Viceroy and Governor of the Indies, for the King and Queen our Lords, is the following.

LO que pertenece al Almirante Viso Rey e Governador delas Yndias por el Rey e la Reyna nuestros Señores es lo siguiente.

§ Muy claro parece por la capitulación fecha con Sus Altezas e firmada de sus reales nonbres que Sus Altezas otorgan e conceden al dicho Almirante delas Yndias todas las prebeminencias e prerrogativas que ha e tiene el Almirante de Castilla al qual por su privilejo parece pertenecerle la tercia parte de todo lo que ganare, e por consiguiente el Almirante delas Yndias deve aver la tercia parte de todo lo que ha ganado delas yslas e tierra firme que ha descubierto e quedan por descubrir porque relatum in referente, y tambien ha de aver el diezmo e ochavo, como parece enel terçero e quinto capitulo dela dicha capitulación.

§ E si alguno quisiere arguir que la tercia parte concedida al Almirante de

Castilla se deve entender delo mueble que ganare por lamar e que por ser las dichas yslas tierra firme que aunque sean ganadas por la mar non pertenece el terçio dellas al dicho Almirante por ser tierra ynumerable [ynmutable].

It appears very clearly by the capitulation made with their Highnesses and signed with their royal names, that their Highnesses grant and allow to the said Admiral of the Indies all the pre-eminences and prerogatives which the Admiral of Castile has and holds; to whom by his privilege it appears that there belongs the third part of all that he shall gain; and consequently the Admiral of the Indies ought to have the third part of all that he has gained from the islands and mainland which he has discovered and which remain to be discovered; because relatum in referente; and also he is to have the tenth and eighth, as appears in the third and fifth article of the said capitulation.

And if anyone shall wish to argue that the third part granted to the Admiral of Castile must be understood to be of the moveables that he shall gain by sea, and that the said islands being firm land, even though they may be gained by sea, the third of them does not belong to the said Admiral because land is immoveable:

To this the said Admiral replies and says that it must be observed that by the said capitulation the said Admiral of Castile is named as Admiral of the Sea, for which cause the third part of what he shall gain by sea is granted to him, because neither jurisdiction nor office is given to him in any other part, and it would be very inconvenient and an unreasonable thing to give him a share in what is outside his office, as it is said, propter officium datum beneficium, because the benefit has and must have respect to the office, and not to what is outside it. But the Admiral of the Indies has been appointed and nominated, according to the tenor of the said capitulation, as Admiral, not of the sea, but expressly and especially of the Indies and mainland discovered and to be discovered in the Ocean; whereby very justly appertains to him the third part of the said islands and mainland which he has gained by exercising and using his office of Admiral; and so must be understood and interpreted the privilege of the said Admiral of Castile and the article which refers thereto; for it is very manifest that every thing must be understood secundum subjectam materiam, et secundum qualitatem personarum; and by giving it any other meaning, the said privilege and article would be of no benefit to the said Admiral of the Indies; because, [not] taking the third of the said Indies, from whence he is Admiral, and not being appointed Admiral of the sea, he could still less take it of what he might gain by sea, as being outside his jurisdiction and office; so that the said article and appointment would not be of any advantage; and such a thing is not to be alleged, because every word placed in a contract must be operative, and must not be interpreted as superfluous;

§ A csto responde el dicho Almirante e dize que se deve mirar que por la dicha capitulación el dicho Almirante de Castilla es nonbrado Almirante dela mar por la qual cabsa les [le es] otorgada la tercia parte delo que ganare por la mar por que en otra parte non le es dada juridición ni oficio, e fuera mucho ynconviniente e cosa non razonable dalle parte fuera de su oficio como se dize, propter officium: dactum beneficium, por que el beneficio ha e deve aver respeto al oficio e non fuera dello. Pero el Almirante delas Yndias ha sydo constituido e nonbrado segund el tenor dela dicha capitulación por Almirante, no dela mar, mas espresa e señalada mente delas Yndias e tierra firme descubiertas e por descubrir enel mar oceano porlo qual muy justa mente le pertenece la tercia parte delas dichas yslas e tierra firme que ha ganado exercitando e usando de su oficio de Almirante e asy se deve entender e ynterpretar el privilegio del dicho Almirante de Castilla e el capitulo que ael se refiere ca muy manifesto es que toda cosa se deve entender, secundum subjectam materiam et secundum qualitatem personarum, e dandole otra ynteligencia non serviria nada el dicho privilegio e capitulo al dicho Almirante delas Yndias porque [no] llevandole el terçio delas dichas Yndias de donde el es Almirante e non syendo constituido Almirante dela mar non podria tan poco llevalle delo que ganase por la mar por ser fuera de su juridición e oficio de manera que non aprovecharia nada el dicho capitulo e constitucion y tal cosa non es de desyr por que cada palabra puesta en un contrato deve obrar e non deve ser ynterpetrada superflua mente

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how much more in this matter of such great importance and utility and glory to their Highnesses, obtained at very little cost and without any danger to their honour, or persons, or property, and with the greatest risk of life, as was the general opinion, and not without considerable expense, to the said Admiral? For which reason the tenth part only would be regarded as a very small thing, not to mention the eighth, because that belongs to him in respect of the cost of his proportionate part; and so small a recompense for so great a service would be a very small share, and what the sacred laws say is here very apposite, quia beneficia principum sunt latissime interpretanda. And therefore the labours conferred by Princes must be understood to be very ample and complete, especially those of most excellent and exalted Princes like their Highnesses, from whom more than from any others are to be expected the most ample labours. And on this account the said third part, although it seems very small, belongs to the said Admiral. For we observe that in the companies which are formed among merchants, the industry and counsel of one partner are reckoned and considered in such a high degree that as great a part belongs to him as to the other who supplied the money, if in consequence thereof the profit accrues, even though it be from the actual money of the other. How much more in this case of the Admiral, who has exercised admirable and incredible industry, and at great cost and risk to his person and to his brothers and followers? Wherefore so much the more is he reasonably entitled to have the third of the whole, as was really the intention of their Highnesses. And to establish the truth of this, we perceive that their Highnesses give to those who go to the Indies five parts out of six, and four parts to those who have less than five, and the administration of territory, without any risk, the road being now open and secure and patent to all. And for confirmation of what I allege, as is contained in many privileges of the said Admiral of the Indies, the said Admiral went by command of their Highnesses to gain neither ships, nor foists nor anything from the sea, but, expressly, islands and mainland, as is especially declared in the privilege, which might rather be called a reward, in eleven leaves, at the bottom of the leaf and beginning of the privilege, wherein it says thus: And because you, Christopher Columbus, are going by our command to discover and gain islands and mainland, et cetera. So then, if the gain was to consist of islands and mainland, it follows that the third part must be of the gain, and being the third of the gain, it is a manifest fact that the third of the islands and mainland which have been gained belongs to the said Admiral. And without doubt it must be believed that if at the beginning the said Admiral had asked for a greater share it would have been granted to him, the whole being of his acquisition, and a thing of which there was no expectation or knowledge, and a thing beyond the memory and dominion of their Highnesses. Thus then is a complete and distinct answer given to those

quanto mas eneste caso de tanta ynpportancia e utilidad e gloria de Sus Altesas avida con muy poca costa e syn ningun peligro de honrra ni de personas ni de bienes e con grandisimo peligro como hera comun opinion dela vida e non syn mucha costa del dicho Almirante. Por la qual razon seria reputado por muy poca cosa sola mente la decima parte, no baxiendola mincion dela ochava porque aquella le pertenesce por respeto dela costa de su rata parte e muy poca parte seria, para tan grand servicio tan pequena merced e bien viene a proposyto lo que dizen las sagradas leyes, quia beneficia Principium sunt latissime interpretanda. E pues las mercedes fechas por los Principes se deven entender amplissimas e muy conplidas mayor mente delos Principes excellentissimos e altos como Sus Altesas, de quien mas que de otros ningunos se esperan amplissimas mercedes. E por esto la dicha tercia parte aunque pareçe minima le pertenesce

al dicho Almirante. Ca vemos que en las companias que entre mercaderes se fassen que en tanto grado es reputada e tenida la yndustria e aviso de un conpanero e tanta parte le pertenesce como al otro que puso dineros, sy por cabsa de aquella aun delos mismos dineros del otro resulta la ganancia. Quanto mas en este caso del Almirante el qual ha obrado yndustria admirable e yncreyble e con grand costa e peligro de su persona e de sus hermanos e cryados por lo qual tanto mas de razon ha deaver el tercio de todo como verdadera mente fue la yntencion de Su[s.] Alteza[s.]. E que esto sea verdad, vemos que Sus Altesas dan a los que van alas Yndias delas seys partes las cinco, e a los que menos delas cinco partes las quatro, e governacion de tierra syn ningund peligro abierto el camino e asegurado e aclarado a todos. E para confirmacion delo que digo como se contiene en muchos previllejos del dicho Almirante delas Yndias el dicho Almirante fue por mandado de Sus Altesas a ganar no naos ni fustas ni cosa alguna delamar mas espresa mente yslas e tierra firme como señalada mente se dise enel previllejo que mas se puede desir merced en honze fojas en fin dela foja e principio del previllejo, en que dize asy: E por que vos Christoval Colon vades por nuestro mandado a descubrir, y ganar yslas e tierra firme et cetera. Y pues sy la ganancia avia de ser yslas e tierra firme neçesidad es que la tercia parte sea dela ganancia e syendo el tercio dela ganancia notoria cosa es que el tercio delas yslas y tierra firme ganadas pertenesçen al dicho Almirante e syn dubda se deve creber que sy al principio oviera pedido el dicho Almirante mayor parte le fuera otorgada syendo todo de su ganancia e de cosa que no avia ninguna esperanza ni noticia e cosa que era fuera dela memoria e señorío de Sus Altesas. Asy que cunplida e clara mente se responde a los que contra

esto dixerén, y justa y clara mente parece pertenecer la tercera parte delas Yndias e tierra firme al dicho Almirante.

§ Y por que el diezmo es clarissimo, acerca del ochavo el qual aunque tan bien es muy claro pero sy contrael se dixese que no ha de aver el dicho ochavo delas mercaderias e cosas llevadas e traydas en los navios que han ydo a descubrir alos que fueron alas per-

las e otras partes desu Almirantazgo entanto que el estava en la ysla Española en servicio de Sus Altezas, diziendo que non contribuyo el dicho Almirante en el armazon dellas, responde que a el non se le notifico la yda de tales navios ni al tienpo dela partida fue requerido ni avisado, y por esto como de jure al ynorante que pueda pretender ynorancia de algund fecho non le corre tienpo, mas la ynorancia syn ninguna dubda, da legitima escusacion e antes restitucion por entero. E asy se deve reduzir e desyr por este caso que el Almirante satysfase ofreciendose a contribuir por su parte al presente ni puede ser el culpado, mas antes lo [los] que no le han notificado lo que heran obligados.

who shall assert the contrary, and it appears justly and manifestly that the third part of the Indies and mainland belongs to the said Admiral.

And, since the tenth is most evident, respecting the eighth, although that is also very evident, yet if it be alleged against him, that he ought not to have the said eighth of the merchandise and things conveyed and carried in the ships which went to discover those which went to the pearls [pearl fisheries] and other parts of his Admiralty, while he was in the island of Hispaniola in the service of their Highnesses, saying that the said Admiral did not contribute towards their equipment; he answers that the despatch of such vessels was not notified to him, nor at the time of their departure did he receive any demand or notice; and therefore, as de jure time does not run against the ignorant who can prove ignorance of any fact, but ignorance without any doubt affords a legitimate excuse and even complete restitution. And thus it must be resolved and affirmed in this case, that the Admiral fulfils his part by offering to contribute his share at the present time; nor can he be blamed, but rather those who did not notify to him what they were bound to notify.

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esto dixerem. y justa y clara mente pareça por tener
az la faga por el dñs yndias de la rra fñca de ofi
almirante

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THE DECLARATION of what belongs, and can and ought to belong, to the Lord Admiral of the Indies by virtue of the capitulation and agreement which he made with their Highnesses, which forms the title and right that the said Admiral and his descendants have to the islands and mainland in the Ocean, is the following:

The First Article.

Firstly, by the first article their Highnesses made him their Admiral of the islands and mainland discovered and to be discovered in the Ocean, with the pre-eminences and according and in the same manner as the Admiral of the Sea of Castile has and holds his Admiralty in his district.

For declaration hereof it is to be noted that the Admiral of Castile has by his privilege the third part of whatever is gained or he shall gain at sea; wherefore for this reason the Admiral of the Indies ought to have the third part of them (the Indies), and of all that is gained in them.

For, granting that the Admiral of Castile does not have the third except of what is gained on the sea whereof he is Admiral, the Admiral of the Indies ought to have the third of them, and of all that is gained by land in them.

The reason is, because their Highnesses commanded him to gain islands and mainland, and thereof especially they designated him Admiral, and from them and in them he ought to have his reward, as one who is Admiral thereof, and who gained them, at much risk, contrary to the opinion of the whole world.

The Second Article.

By the second article, that their Highnesses made him their Viceroy and Governor General of all the said islands and mainland, with faculty to have all the offices which appertain to the government, except that their Highnesses could appoint one out of three; and afterwards their Highnesses made him a new grant of the said offices in the years ninety-two and ninety-three, by a privilege bestowed, without the said condition.

The explanation hereof is, that the said offices of Viceroy and Governor belong to the said Admiral, with faculty to appoint all the officers of the offices and magistracies of the said Indies, because their Highnesses, in reward and as it were payment for his labour, and for the expense which the said Admiral incurred, in discovering and gaining the said Indies, made him a grant of the said offices and government, together with the said faculty.

For it is a very sure thing that, at the beginning, the said Admiral would not be disposed, nor would any man have been disposed [towards the undertaking], considering the risk and hazard, if in reward and payment for such an enterprise their Highnesses would not grant him the said offices and government.

§ *Ca puesto que el Almirante de Castilla no aya el terçio [tercio] salvo delo que se gana por la mar de donde el es Almirante [el Almirante] delas Yndias deve aver el tercio dellas, y de todo lo que por tierra enellas se gana.*

§ *La razon es por que Sus Altezas yslas e tierra firme le mandaron ganar, y dellas señalada mente le titularon Almirante, y dellas, y enellas deve aver el galardón como quien es Almirante dellas y con mucho peligro contra la opinyon de todo el mundo las gano.*

Capitulo Segundo.

§ *Por el segundo capitulo que Sus Altezas le hizieron su Viso rey, y Governador general de todas las dichas yslas e tierra firme con facultad que oviese todos los ofiçios que pertenecen ala governaçion eçebto de tress Sus Altezas pudiesen nonbrar el uno, y despues Sus Altezas le hizieron nueva merçed delos dichos ofiçios enlos años de noventa e dos, y noventa e tres por previllegio otorgado, syn la dicha condiçion.*

§ *La declaraçion desto es que al dicho Almirante pertenecen los dichos ofiçios de Viso rey e Governador, con facultad de poner todos los ofiçiales delos ofiçios, y magistratos delas dichas Yndias, por que Sus Altezas en gualardon, y casy pago de su trabajo, y costa que el dicho Almirante hizo en descobryr, y ganar las dichas Yndias le fizieron merçed delos dichos ofiçios y governaçion conla dicha facultad.*

§ *Ca muy çierta cosa es que al prinçipio el dicho Almirante non se dispusiera ni persona alguna se oviera dispuesto, acatando riesgo e aventura sy en galdaron e pago de tal ynpresa Sus Altezas non le otorgaran los dichos ofiçios, y governaçion.*

LA declaraçion delo que pertenece e pertenece puede e deve al Señor Almirante delas Yndias por virtud dela capitulaçion e asiento que con Sus Altezas fizo, que es el titulo e derecho que tiene el dicho Almirante, y sus descendientes, alas yslas e tierra firme del mar oceano, es este que se sigue.

El Primero Capitulo.

§ *Primera mente por el primero capitulo sus Altezas le hizieron su Almirante delas yslas e tierra firme descubiertas e por descubryr enel mar oceano conlas prebeminencias e segunt e enla manera que el Almirante delamar de Castilla ha e tiene su almirantazgo en su distrito.*

§ *Para declaraçion desto, es de notar que el Almirante de Castilla tiene por su previllejo la terçia parte delo que se gana o el ganare enla mar por que por esta razon el Almirante delas Yndias deve aver la terçia parte della [dellas], y delo que enellas se gana.*

Observe that he says that he gained the Indies contrary to the opinion of the whole world.

Mira que dice que gano las Indias contra la opinion de todo el mundo.

Los quales Sus Altezas justamente le otorgaron por que fuese de aquello con que tan señalado servicioles fazia el dicho Almirante antes que antes aprovechado honrrado y sublimado.

§ Ca muy poca honrra o casy ninguna recibiera el dicho Almirante aunque otro pago oviera si en aquella tierra por el con tanta pena ganada Sus Altezas pusieran otro en su lugar [y] pues por tan justas cabsas fue dellos proveído justa mente pertenece[n] al dicho Almirante los dichos oficios y governacion.

§ Y por que agora el dicho Almirante estando pacificamente en servicio de Sus Altezas exercitando los dichos oficios en las dichas Yndias le desapoderaron dela posesion dellos ynjusta mente, y contra toda razon e derecho syn ser llamado ni oydo ni vencido delo qual dize que recibio el dicho Almirante grandisymo agravio, y grand desonor en su persona, y menoscabo en sus bienes, y segund el dicho capitulo clara mente paresce por las razones syguientes.

§ Por que el dicho Almirante non pudo ser despojado ni desapoderado delos dichos sus oficios pues nunca cometio ni hizo ningund caso contra Sus Altezas porque de derecho deviese perder sus bienes, y puesto que cabsa oviera lo que Dios no quiera que primero avia de ser el dicho Almirante citado e llamado e oydo e vencido por derecho.

§ Y en desapoderalle syn justa cabsa grand agravio recibio el dicho Almirante, y grand ynjusticia se le hiso, y aun de derecho Sus Altezas non lo podian fazer.

§ Pues que Sus Altezas le dieron los dichos oficios y governacion dela dicha tierra en satisfacion del servicio, y costa que el dicho Almirante hizo en ganalla de donde conseqüio justo ynterese y fue dellos adespoderado alos dichos titulos [justo ynterese e perpetuo titulo alos dichos oficios], y pues [in]justa mente fue dellos adespoderado el dicho Almirante ante de todas cosas deve deser restituído en los dichos sus oficios, y en su onor y estado.

§ Y en quanto al daño que ha recibido el dicho Almirante dize que es en grand cantidad por que con su ynustria de cada dia fallava y descubria en las dichas Yndias mucho oro perlas y espeçieria, y otras cosas de grand valor. Que el dicho Almirante faga juramento e declare la cantidad del ynterese, y aquello de derecho le deve ser satisfecho.

§ La sastifacion desto le deve fazer aquel que ynjusta mente le desapodero de totodos [todos] sus bienes porque aquel segund ley divina, e umana como quien traspaso los límites del poder de Sus Altezas es obligado aello.

Which things their Highnesses justly granted to him, in order that the said Admiral might be the more highly benefited, honoured and exalted in that thing wherein he had rendered them such signal service.

For the said Admiral would receive very little honour, or perhaps none, even though he should have other payment, if in that land, acquired by him with so much difficulty, their Highnesses were to appoint another in his place; and since for such just causes he has been endowed with them, the said offices and government justly belong to the said Admiral.

And because now, while the said Admiral was peaceably executing, in the service of their Highnesses, the said offices in the said Indies, they have deprived him of the possession thereof unjustly, and contrary to all reason and right, without being summoned, or heard or convicted; the said Admiral declares he has received thereby very great injury, and much dishonour in his person and loss in his property; and according to the said article it appears clearly for the following reasons.

Because the said Admiral could not be despoiled or deprived of his said offices, since he has never committed or done anything against their Highnesses for which he ought of right to lose his property; and granted that such were the case, which God forbid, the said Admiral was entitled to be first of all cited and summoned, and heard and convicted according to law.

And in being deprived without just cause the said Admiral received great injury, and great injustice was done to him, and even by law their Highnesses had no power to do it.

For since their Highnesses gave him the said offices and government of the said land in satisfaction of the service and expense which the said Admiral employed in gaining it, he thereby acquired a just interest and perpetual title to the said offices; and since the said Admiral has been unjustly deprived of them, he ought, before all things, to be restored to his said offices, and to his honour and dignity.

And with respect to the damage he has received, the said Admiral declares that it is of large amount, because by his industry he was daily finding and discovering in the said Indies much gold, pearls and spice, and other things of great value.—Let the said Admiral declare upon oath the amount of his interest, and that is what ought to be duly rendered to him.

Satisfaction hereof ought to be made to him by the person who unjustly deprived him of all his property, because that person is bound to do so, by law both divine and human, as one who exceeded the limits of the power of their Highnesses.

And so much the more promptly ought the satisfaction and reinstatement of the said offices, property and honour to be made to the said Admiral, as he was the less liable in justice to be despoiled of them. For it is a very incredible thing and unworthy of belief, that their Highnesses should approve that a man so industrious, who came from such a very far country to perform so signal and arduous a service to their Highnesses, as he did by his industry and person, for which he deserved to be found worthy of still greater good fortune, should, owing to envious persons and their calumnies, be utterly destroyed.

He being, with reason, so much united in affection to their Highnesses and so well established in their good graces, the said Admiral and all the world believed that no detractors could make him appear other than deserving of great labours, still less excite anger in the breasts of their Highnesses, so as to make him lose what he had obtained by having so served and merited, wherewith the said Admiral daily hoped to be of still further service, and was serving their Highnesses and procuring by his industry the present profit from the said Indies, and governing in virtue of his offices with a view to the settlement and augmentation thereof.

Which thing no other would do or will do; for, besides having wholly abandoned it (unless he had taken it in hand) till a remote period, those who will now govern would not, owing to their greed to enrich themselves during their administration, provide for the future like the said Admiral, who was influenced by that perpetual interest which, consisting in the expectation of honour and profit to come, after having well ruled and preserved the Indians, who are the riches of that land, and having reformed and brought into subjection the dominion thereof, did not hold for naught that of the present time.

The Third Article.

By the third article their Highnesses conferred upon him the grant of the tenth part of all that should be bought, found and obtained within the limits of the said Admiralty, after deducting the costs. This is to be understood in such wise that the said Admiral is to have the tenth of what shall be obtained and found in the said Indies and mainland of the Ocean by any persons whomsoever, from all jointly, whether it be for the profit of their Highnesses or of any other persons to whom they may have made a grant thereof, or of part thereof; after deducting the costs which such persons, or their Highnesses, shall incur therein.

And their Highnesses cannot with justice, in prejudice of the said tenth, make a grant of the whole or of any part of the profit of the said Indies, to any person, unless he first

provecho presente delas dichas Yndias, y gobernando con sus oficios para la poblacion e aumentacion dellas.

§ Lo qual otro alguno non hiziera ni fara por que demas de avello todo desanparado sy el non governara enel tienpo remoto los que agora governaren con cobdicia de se aprovechar durante su governacion non proveheran enlo por venir como el dicho Almirante a quien tocava el ynterese perpetuo que con esperanza dela honrra, y provecho advenidero despues deaver bien regido, y conservado, los Yndios que es la riqueza de aquella tierra, y reformado y sojuzgado el senorio della non tenia en nada lo del tienpo de agora.

Terçero Capitulo.

§ Por el terçero capitulo Sus Altezas le fizieron merced dela decima parte de todo lo que se conprare fallase e oviese dentro delos limites del dicho almirantazgo sacando las costas.

§ Esto se entiende de manera que el dicho Almirante ha deaver el diezmo delo que se oviere e fallare enlas dichas Yndias e tierra firme del mar oceano por quales quier personas de todos junta mente, agora sea para provecho de Sus Altezas o de otras quales quier personas por merced que dello o de parte dello les ayan fecho sacando les costas que las tales personas o Sus Altezas enello fizieren.

§ Y Sus Altezas de justia en perjuizio del dicho diezmo non pueden faser merced de todo ni de parte alguna del provecho delas dichas Yndias a ninguna persona syn que primera

§ Y tanto mas presto le deve ser fecha la satisfacion e reyntregacion delos dichos oficios, bien yhonrra al dicho Almirante quanto menos justia ovo para ser dellos despojado.

§ Ca muy yncreyble cosa, y no digna de creer es que ayan por bueno Sus Altezas que un varon tan yndustrioso que de tan longuisyma tierra vino ha faze[r]tan señalado y alto servicio a Sus Altezas como fizo con su yndustria y presona por que merecio ser digno de muy mayor felicidad fuese por cabsa de envidiosos, y malicias del todo punto destruido.

§ Deviendo estar de rason tanto junto en amor de Sus Altezas y tan asentado en sus magnanimas entrañas que el dicho Almirante y todo el mundo creya que ningunos detradores le pudieran faser ageno del merecimiento de grandes mercedes quanto mas yndinar el corazon de Sus Altezas para le faser perder lo que tan servido e merecido tenia con que de cada dia el dicho Almirante esperava mucho mas servir, y servia a Sus Altezas e procurando con su yndustria el

mente aya de pagar e pague dello entera mente el diesmo al dicho Almirante.

§ Que por fazer Sus Altezas las tales mercedes desfasen o menoscaban, la que ya tienen fecha al dicho Almirante y dexan muy desmenuida o desmenbrada su devida satisfacion.

§ Por que la merced fecha al dicho Almirante del dicho diezmo fue antes primera mente que las dichas Yndias descubriese, y dado y otorgado para ayuda al gualardon y pago que por tal servicio merecia, y por ello el dicho diezmo es ramo principal de su liquido ynterese.

§ Y aun sy Sus Altezas por conçierto o conçicion o en otra qual quier manera dieren la mitad o otra qual quier parte a quales quier personas que se dispusieren al trabajo, y costa del tal provecho, tan bien deve aver el dicho Almirante el diezmo dello que resultare, y no se consumiere dela parte delas tales personas como dela principal de Sus Altezas pues lo uno y lo otro es verdadera y principal ganancia [y] resulte delas Yndias de su Almirantazgo.

of all has to pay and does pay to the said Admiral the tenth thereof in full.

That their Highnesses, by making such grants, cancel or impair that which they have already conferred upon the said Admiral, and leave its due fulfilment much diminished or curtailed.

Because the grant made to the said Admiral of the said tenth was made first of all, before he discovered the said Indies, and it was given and granted as an instalment of the reward and payment which he deserved for such service, consequently the said tenth is the chief branch of his clear share.

And even if their Highnesses, by agreement or condition or in any other manner, should give the half, or any part, to any persons who will undertake the labour and cost of such adventure, the said Admiral ought still to have the tenth of what shall be obtained, and it will not be an encroachment on the portion of such persons as on the principal of their Highnesses, since the one and the other are the true and principal gain and proceeds of the Indies of his Admiralty.

The Fourth Article.

By the fourth article their Highnesses granted to the said Admiral the civil and criminal jurisdiction of any suits whatsoever relating to the said Indies, and that he might take cognizance of them here in the parts and places comprehended within the jurisdiction of the Admiral of Castile, this being just.

In explanation of the judicial power held by the said Admiral, he alleges that the jurisdiction belongs to him because it is one of the principal pre-eminences, or, as it were, arm of the body of his Admiralty, without which it would be very difficult to govern the said Admiralty, or rather it would remain void, seeing that the said jurisdiction is the chief power which honours, animates and sustains all the other parts of the body of the said Admiralty.

And that such cognizance belongs to him in the ports and bays on this side, just as well as in the self-same islands and mainland whereof he is Admiral, because if he were to hold the said jurisdiction only in the main body over there without including the suits arising here, then, owing to the contracting parties being natives of this country, and all the commerce and business belonging thereto, his jurisdiction would be almost null, because those who go to the said Indies, go only to trade, and leave behind them here those contracts

Quarto Capitulo.

§ Por el quarto capitulo Sus Altezas conçedieron al dicho Almirante la juridicion çivil e creminal de quales quier plitos tocantes alas dichas Yndias e que podiese conoçer dellos aca enlas partes y logares donde conprehende la juridicion del Almirante de Castilla syendo justo.

§ Para declaracion dela justia que tiene el dicho Almirante, dize que ael pertenesçe el dicho juzgado por ser una delas principales prebeminencias o casy braço del cuerpo de su Almirantamiento, syn el qual a grand pena se podria señorear al dicho Almirantazgo, antes quedaria yermo por que el dicho juzgado es el principal esfuerço que honrra anima e sostiene todas las otras partes del cuerpo del dicho Almirantamiento.

§ Y que le pertenesçe el tal conoçimiento enlos puertos, y abras de aca, bien asy como enlas mesmas yslas e tierra firme de donde el es Almirante por que sy enel tronco de alla solamente toviese el dicho juzgado syn conprender aca las cabsas emanantes que por ser los contrayentes naturales desta tierra y todo el trato y negoçiaçion della, que su juridicion casy seria ninguna, porque los que van alas dichas Yndias van para sola mente negoçiar, y aca quedan las ligaturas

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and covenants which, upon their return, give rise to suits; the causes of such suits being that they made default in the business and commerce which they have conducted within his Admiralty.

Moreover that, even if the said article did not contain any clause wherein mention was expressly made of the said jurisdiction, at the moment when their Highnesses established the said office of Admiralty and made a grant thereof to the said Admiral with the same pre-eminences as those of the Admiralty of Castile, they made him a grant, conjointly with the said Admiralty, of the said jurisdiction with the said comprehension, because the Admiral of the Sea of Castile holds, as the principal pre-eminence of his Admiralty, the jurisdiction of all the civil and criminal suits appertaining thereto, which include those in all the harbours and bays of this country, although they are beyond his Admiralty.

And in regard to his being justly provided therewith, the said Admiral alleges that their Highnesses could justly provide him with it, as Kings and sovereign Lords, possessing absolute power for everything, to whom alone such provision belonged.

And their Highnesses in providing the said Admiral with the said office and the said comprehension, did no injury to any person, nor does it touch their own interest, seeing that his said Admiralty and its jurisdiction, and the islands and lands from which he takes his dignity, have been newly and miraculously discovered, and united and brought under the dominion of Castile.

Moreover, that the suits emanating from the said Admiralty, owing to the great distance and remoteness of the country wherein it is established, and because of its being a country far removed from any place to which the merchants of this land resort, will be very foreign, diverse and distinct from the suits arising here; and in separating and dividing the cognisance of them, no injury results to any jurisdiction.

And since their Highnesses, without injury to any person, and with sovereign power, provided justly, it is very certain that no injustice intervened in such provision, for two contraries naturally cannot govern one subject, but rather so much shun and avoid consisting in one thing, that from the nature of the one we arrive at the knowledge of the quality of the other; whence it is concluded that the said provision is just.

And even from the person of the said Admiral it follows that the said provision is just; because according to the quality of the said West Indies, which were unknown to all the world, it was necessary to appoint on this side a judge of sure experience to give

y posturas que de buelta engendran los plitos seyendo las cabsas delos tales plitos que desvaran dela negociacion, y trato que tovieron dentro en su Almirantadgo.

§ Lo otro que aunque el dicho capitulo no oviera en que espresa mente se hiziera mención del dicho juzgado que la ora que Sus Altezas establecieron el dicho oficio de Almirantadgo, y fizieron del merced al dicho Almirante con las mesmas prebeminencias del Almirantadgo de Castilla, que conjunta mente al dicho Almirantamiento le avian fecho merced del dicho juzgado con la dicha comprehension por que el Almirante del mar de Castilla tiene por principal prebeminencia de su Almirantadgo, el juzgado de todos los plitos civiles e criminales ael tocantes que comprehenden en todos los puertos y abras desta tierra, aun que son fuera de su Almirantadgo.

§ Y en quanto a ser justa mente del proveydo dise el dicho Almirante que Sus

Altezas justa mente le pudieron del proveer como Reyes e Señores soberanos que para todo tienen poder absoluto a quien sola mente pertenecía la tal provision.

§ Y Sus Altezas en proveer al dicho Almirante del dicho oficio con la dicha comprehension non hisieron agravio a persona alguna ni les toca ynterese, por ser el dicho su Almirantamiento y juzgado del, y las yslas y tierras donde el es ynstituido nueva e miraglosa mente balladas conjuntas y traydas al señorío de Castilla.

§ Lo otro que los plitos emanantes del dicho Almirantadgo a cabsa dela grand distançia e apartamiento dela tierra donde es ynstituido y por ser muy alongada de do confluyen los marcantes desta tierra seran muy agenos divididos e apartados delos plitos aca tocantes, y en apartar, y dividir el conoçimiento dellos non se sigue [a] ninguna juridición agravio.

§ Y pues Sus Altezas syn agravio de persona alguna y con poder soberano justamente proveyeron es muy cierto que en la tal provisyon non yntervino justicia, ca dos contrarios natural mente non pueden señorear un sojebto antes tanto rebuyen y se agenar de consystir en una cosa que por la especie del uno venimos en conoçimiento dela calidad del otro de donde se concluye en que la dicha provision es justa.

§ Y aun dela persona del dicho Almirante proçede ser justa la dicha provision por que segunt la calidad delas dichas Yndias ocidentales a todo el mundo ynnotas de necesidad se avia de poner aca juez de çierta esperiençia para dar

justa sentençia pues quien las avria mas espirementado ni ternia mas çierto conoçimiento dela calidad delos plitos que el tal Almirante que continua mente enellas ha resyvido, y milagrosa mente con su mucha soti-leza y çiençia dela mar corriendo mucho peligro del mismo mar la[s] saco.

Quinto Capitulo.

§ Por el quinto capi-tulo Sus Altezas con-zeden al dicho Al-mirante que pueda contribuir en la ochava parte de quales quier armadas que se fagan para el trato e negoçiacion delas yslas e tierra firme de su Almiran-tadgo e que tan bien aya la ochava parte delo que resultare dela tal armazon.

§ El verdadero en-tendimiento desto es que el dicho Almi-rante deve aver el ochavo de quales quier cosas que en qual quier manera enlas dichas Yndias se aya[n] agora sea para provecho de Sus Altezas e [o] de otras quales quier personas sacando el ochavo dela costa dello por rata.

§ Porque enla primera armada de que resulto las dichas Yndias es asaber la ganancia que dellas proçede tal dicho Almirante contribuyo en su ochava parte, y aun çerca dela mitad dela costa de donde conseyguio perpetuo tytulo al dicho ochavo por ser el resulto dela dicha armada senpyterno.

Lo otro pues al prinçipio señalada mente yva a ganar yslas e tierra firme que es cosa yn mutable non se entendiera poder traber ganancia para aver della el ochavo sy porlo mueble dellas como verdadero resulte y fin dela tal armazon non fuera entendido.

§ Y aunque el dicho Almirante dela primera armada non traxo lo mueble delas dichas Yndias que era el resulte, y ganancia della que pues el metio las dichas yslas e tierra firme debaxo del poder de Sus Altezas y alla pacifica mente como suyas las dexo que asy mismo se entiende aver apoderado y dado a Sus Altezas todo lo mueble dellas que enellas ala saxon en qual quier tienpo se oviesse pues quietamente dende en adelante podian enbyar Sus Altezas por todoello como por cosa suya a quien quisyesen.

§ Lo otro que puesto que por contribuyr enla primera armada non oviera el dicho Almirante conseguido per-petuo derecho al dicho ochavo que pues Sus Altezas forçosa mente han de armar para gosar dela ganancia delas dichas Yndias que de justicia no le pueden bedar que el non contribuya enla costa dellas, y llevar el ochavo del resulte y por que las armadas han de ser continuas por ser el resulte delas Yndias continuo que perpetua mente le perteneçe el dicho ochavo.

just judgment; for who would have had more experience of them (the Indies), or would have surer knowledge of the nature of the suits, than that Admiral who has constantly resided in them, and miraculously found them through his great skill and knowledge of the sea, and by exposing himself to much danger from the said sea?

The Fifth Article.

By the fifth article their Highnesses grant to the said Admiral power to contribute the eighth part of any fleets whatsoever which may be equipped for the trade and business of the islands and mainland of his Admiralty, and that he may likewise have the eighth part of what shall be deribed from such equipment.

The true understanding hereof is, that the said Admiral ought to have the eighth of any things whatsoever, which are obtained in any manner whatsoever in the said Indies, whether it be for the profit of their Highnesses or of any other persons whomsoever, deducting the eighth of the cost thereof, pro rata.

Because in the first expedition, from which resulted the said Indies, that is to say the gain which arises from them, the said Admiral contributed his eighth share, and even about half of the cost; whence he acquired a perpetual title to the said eighth, because the result of the said expedition is perpetual.

Likewise, because at the beginning he went especially to gain islands and mainland, which are unchangeable things, it could not be understood that he was able to deribe profit by having the eighth thereof, unless it were understood of their moveables, as the real result and object of the said equipment.

And although the said Admiral did not bring back from the first expedition the moveables of the said Indies, which were its result and gain, yet since he placed the said islands and mainland under the power of their Highnesses, and left them there peaceably as their own, it is likewise understood that he took possession of and gave to their Highnesses all the moveables thereof, which might be obtained therein in due season at any time; since their Highnesses could peaceably, from that time forward, send anyone they might choose for the whole of it as for their own property.

Further, allowing that the said Admiral had not acquired a perpetual right to the said eighth by contributing to the first expedition, since their Highnesses must perforce fit out a fleet in order to enjoy the profit from the said Indies, yet in justice they cannot forbid him to contribute to the cost thereof and to take the eighth of the outcome; and since the expeditions have to be continual because the produce of the Indies is continual, therefore the said eighth belongs to him for ever.

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And although it may be said that such eighth belongs to him only from the profit of merchandise, because it states in the article concerning traffic and negotiation that merchandise is understood, the truth is, that the said eighth of all the moveables of the said Indies belongs in general to the said Admiral, because in the words traffic and negotiation there is comprehended every kind of thing which may be obtained in any manner or at any time.

For the said word traffic is the skill or diligence which is employed to gain the object of the negotiation, and is, in fine, the traffic or method which the said Admiral had to carry on with the possessors of the said Indies, which he went to gain, in order to attain his object, which was to gain them; and, since he gained them, what results therefrom is what in justice ought to be divided as the true result of such negotiation.

And this other word negotiation is derived from negotium, which means *negotium* (avoid sloth), quia *negotium est quasi negotium*; so that its meaning is general for any kind of thing, and therein is included any kind of moveable which is found in the said Indies.

And supposing that the said word were not equivocal, and that it had the precise signification of merchandise, yet since the said Admiral had gained the said Indies and mainland, especially Hispaniola, more by gifts of merchandise than by force of arms, the said Indies and all things belonging thereto can be justly said to be purchased and therefore to be merchandise, because from *mercar* (to purchase) is derived the said word *mercaderia* (merchandise).

Moreover, that even though the said Admiral had gained the said Indies by force of arms, and their Highnesses had expressly despatched him to traffic, he does not on that account cease to have his said eighth of them, because the moveables which are found therein, such as gold, pearls, spices and other things, are purely and chiefly merchandise; for everything moveable which can be purchased, except anything consecrated, must be described as merchandise, according to the laws which declare *quod omnia sunt in commercio nostro* (that all things are included in our commerce).

Furthermore, that in whatever manner he had obtained the proposed end of the expedition, which was the acquisition of the said Indies, his said eighth belonged to the said Admiral, because gains at sea and the risks thereof are very various, accidental, uncertain and unexpected, and what is derived from them, for division among all, amounts to the same whether it has been cut away by force or

§ *Y aun que se diga que solamente del resulte de mercaderia le pertenece el tal ochavo por que dize en el capitulo del trabto e negoçiaçion que dizque se entiende mercaderia la verdad es que general mente pertenece al dicho Almirante el dicho ochavo de todo el mueble delas dichas Yndias porque enlos dichos bocablos trabto negoçiaçion comprehende todo genero de cosa que en qual quier manera, y tienpo se aya.*

§ *Ca el dicho bocablo trabto es astucia o la diligençia que se pone para conseguir el fin dela negoçiaçion, y final mente el trabto o modo que el dicho Almirante avia de tener conlos poseedores delas dichas Yndias que yva a ganar para conseguir el fin que hera ganallas y pues las gano, lo que dellas resulta es lo que justa mente se deve partir como verdadero resulte dela tal negoçiaçion.*

§ *Y este otro bocablo negoçiaçion se deriba de negoçio que se entiende negoçio [negotio] quia*

negotium est quasi negotium de manera que su entendimiento es general para en qual quier genero de cosa e porello comprehende a qual quier genero de cosa mueble que enlas dichas Yndias se falle.

§ *Y puesto que el dicho bocablo no fuera equivoco, y que tovera liquida determinaçion demercaderia que pues las dichas Yndias y tierra firme espeçial mente la Española avia ganado el dicho Almirante mas por dadivas demercaderias que por fuerça de armas que justa mente las dichas Yndias y todas las cosas dellas se pueden desyr mercadas, y porello mercaderia por que demercar se deriba el dicho bocablo mercaderia.*

§ *Lo otro que aun que por fuerça de armas oviera ganado el dicho Almirante las dichas Yndias, y Sus Altezas espresa mente a mercadejar le ovieran enbyado que por eso no çesa deaver dellas el dicho su ochavo por que lo mueble que enellas se falla, asy como oro e perlas, espeçeria e otras cosas pura e prinçipal mente es mercaderia, ca toda cosa mueble que se puede comprar eçebto consagrada se deve llamar mercaderia segunt las leyes que dizen quod omnia sunt in comertio nostro.*

§ *Lo otro que por qual quier forma que oviese conseguido el fin dela yntençion del armada que era la ganancia delas dichas Yndias pertenecia al dicho Almirante el dicho su ochavo porque las ganancias dela mar y los casos dellas son muy varyos afortunados ynçiertos e ynopinados y lo que dellas resulta para por todos partirse tanto monta aver sydo cortado por fuerça como*

desatado por arte. Ca este es el comun estilo de todos los armadores para lo qual ay ynfinitos enxemplos.

Ca muy cierto es que sy algunos mercaderes armasen en compania para solo trabo de mercaderia e por ventura se concertasen con el patron que el pudiese contribuir en alguna parte del arazon por que tambien oviese aquella parte del resulte, que aun que fuera de mercaderia ganase alguna cibdat o sueldo o navio de enemigos que tambien le pertenecia la parte dela tal ganancia como de derecho avia deaver dela mercaderia por que aun que fue ganado fuera de mercaderia es verdadero resulte avido a cabsa dela tal armada.

§ E sy por caso un factor de alguna otra compania negociando en algund reyno se fisyese muy parcial del Rey de aquella tierra syrvriendole con ynprestidos o con vendelle mercaderias a menos preçio y por caso despues de desatada la compania aquel Rey por contemplançion del amistad le hiziese a el merced de alguna cosa es obligado a partir con sus conpañeros entera mente como de verdadero resulte avido a cabsa dela tal conpañia, aunque ya oviese grand tienpo que fuese desligada por que en toda parte asy se juzga, e asylo disponen les leyes destos Reynos de Sus Altezas.

§ Y en Portugal ha muy poco que acaesçio lo semejante, a un florentin facctor de una gruesa compania de Florençia que por aver mucho servido al Rey de aquella tierra con enprestidos, y otras cosas de sus mercaderias fue costrenido a dar parte a sus conpañeros de una merced que el Rey le hizo por contemplançion del amistad ael pro [sic] propio despues de dada cuenta e desligada la compania como de verdadero resulte emanente della.

§ Y aun aquel patron Lercar a quien Sus Altezas hizieron merced por contemplançion del serviçio que les hizo enel pasaje del Archeduquesa, y en alguna satisfaçion dela carraca que perdio enlos bancos fue en Genua por justia costrenido a dar parte a sus conpañeros como de resulte verdadero, y solamente le quedo lo que le pertenecia como patron por racta.

§ Y aun sy por caso, a un hijo se faze una donaçion por algund grand amigo de su padre aunque todas las otras dadivas se contribuya[n] apeculio non menos esta se deve asignar apeculio porphetio por que el fin proçede del padre, y otras muchas cosas continua mente acaesçen que alproposyto se podrian dezir pero dexando aquello baste que de todo lo suso dicho se colige que al dicho Almirante perteneçe junta mente el terçio delas dichas yslas, y tierra firme, y ochavo, y diezmo de todas las cosas muebles que enellas y dentro de su Almirantadgo en qual quier tienpo, y por quales quier personas, y en qual

detached by subtlety. For this is the general usage of all adventurers, whereof there are innumerable examples.

For it is very certain that if some merchants in company were to fit out a vessel for traffic in merchandise alone, and should perchance arrange with the captain that he might contribute some share of the equipment, for which he should likewise have the like share of the proceeds, although, apart from merchandise, he should gain some city, or reward or vessel from enemies, yet the same share of such a gain as he was duly entitled to have of the merchandise, would likewise belong to him, because although it was gained apart from merchandise, it is the actual profit resulting from such equipment.

And if perchance a factor of some other company, trading in any kingdom, should become very friendly with the king of that land, by assisting him with loans or by selling goods to him at a lower price, and it should happen that, after the company had been dissolved, that king, in regard of their friendship, should make him a present of anything, he is under obligation to share the whole with his associates, as being actual profit obtained by reason of such company, even though a long time might have elapsed since it was dissolved, because this is everywhere understood, and the laws of these kingdoms of their Highnesses do thus order the same.

And it is a very short time since that a similar thing happened in Portugal to a Florentine, the factor of a large company in Florence, who, for having greatly assisted the King of that country with loans and other things from his merchandise, was compelled to give to his associates a share of a present which the King had made to him, in regard of his personal friendship, after the account had been rendered and the company dissolved, as of actual profit arising therefrom.

And even that Captain Lercar, to whom their Highnesses made a present, in consideration of the service which he did them in the voyage of the Archduchess and as some compensation for the carack which he lost on the sandbanks, was judicially compelled in Genoa to give part to his associates, as of actual profit; and there remained to him only what belonged to him as captain, pro rata.

And even if, by chance, a donation is made to a son by some great friend of his father, although all other gifts may be contributed to [the son's] property, this must, nevertheless, be assigned to the peculium profectitium, because it ultimately proceeds from the father; and many other things are continually occurring which might appositely be alleged. But, leaving that, let it suffice to gather from all that is said above that there justly belongs to the said Admiral the third of the said islands and mainland, and the eighth and the tenth of all the moveables which may be found therein and within his Admiralty, at whatever time, and by whatever persons, and in whatever

afuado por dize euestres el con. estilo de to d s
 l s Armados Ju lo que ay y n f m t s en x en
 y los

saunp gerto es q Syalgmos merca d r s Arm d n En
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 d e n d l l g m p a r t e d l a r m a d n p o r q t a b i e n c o r
 a q l l a p r d e l t r d u l t e r q a d a l q f l e r a d m r r d e t e
 g m a s e q l g m g b d n d e d u l b c o n d e d e n e m y e r
 q t a b i e l e g t r n e a l i p r o l a t a l g a n a n a u n d
 d e r e r h e d n a d n e z d e l a m b r n d p a p o r q a d n q f u l
 S m t a d f m d m d n d p a e d d d n d r o d e d u l a
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 d l p a d r e y o t r a s m m f i s a b e d d t i m m m e t r d u s i r
 q a l p r o y o d t o s e p o d r a d d r p o d x a m b d y n e l l o
 d a s t e l y d t o d l o d i s o d f d d d h e r q a l d f a l m y
 p e r t e n e n s u e m e n t e l d n o d l a d o f i s y g l a s y t r r a
 f a r m e y o r f a n o y d i e s i m d t o d n d d l a d a d u s m u l t i
 q l e n i l l a s y d e n t r o d d a l m y r a n t a d e o e n q u a l
 d r t a s y p o r q u a l e s d r i f f o n a d y e n q u a l

manner, as of the actual proceeds of his said first expedition, although he may not have contributed to the others, for touching that matter sufficient has been said in another writing.

It remained to declare to their Highnesses that they made a grant to the Admiral of all offices, as the Admiral of the Sea of Castile holds them, and that he could appoint the bailiff and scribes, or order them to serve in his name; and, since this is so, that he could also lease out those offices and receive the rent, just as a knight does to whom their Highnesses have made a grant of a lieutenancy or of an office, and as very many are seen to do in Castile, who receive the rent themselves and cause the said duty to be performed by one of their servants, or agree with some person and give him a certain portion of the rent. And so he petitions their Highnesses to remove his grievances, and to permit him to use his offices, and to receive the emolument, since it was thus settled by capitulation and grant.

o mandallos servir en su nonbre, y pues esto es asy que tan bien los podian arendar, y llevar la renta asy como lleva un cavallero a quien Vuestras [Sus] Altezas ayan fecho merçed de una tenençia o de un ofiçio como se ve en muy muchos en Castilla que ellos se lievan la renta y fazen servir el dicho cargo a uno suyo, o se conçiernan con una presona, y le dan una çierta parte dela renta. Y asy lo suplica a Sus Altesas que le desagravien y le dexen usar de sus ofiços, y reçibir el beneficio, puesque asy fue por capitulaçion e merçed.

quier manera se falle como de verdadero resulte dela dicha su primera armada, aunque en las otras non aya contribuido por que tocante a esto farto se ha dicho en otro escrito.

§ Quedava por dezir a Vuestras [Sus] Altezas que fizieron merçed al Almirante de todos los ofiços como los tiene el Almirante delamar de Castilla, y que el podia dar el alguaziladgo y escrivanas

Transcript of a letter which the Admiral of the Indies sent to the nurse of Prince Don John of Castile. In the year 1500 when he was returning from the Indies as a prisoner.

§ TRESLADO de una carta que el Almirante delas Yndias embio alma [al ama] del Principe Don Juan de Castilla, el año de MD. viniendo preso delas Yndias.

§ MUY virtuosa Señora. Si mi quexa del mundo es nueva, su uso de maltratar es de muy antiguo: mill combates me ha dado, y a todos resisti fasta agora que non me aprovecho armas ni avisos, con crueldad me tiene echado al fundo. La esperança de aquel que crío a todos me sostiene: su socorro fue siempre muy presto: otra vez y non delexos estando yo mas baxo, me levanto con su brazo derecho, diziendo, o onbre de poca fe, levantate que yo soy non ayays miedo.

§ Yo vine con amor tan entrañable a servir a estos Príncipes, y he servido de servicio, deque jamas se oyo ni vido.

§ Del nuevo cielo e tierra que hazia nuestro Señor, escribiendo Sanct Juan el Apocalis, despues de dicho por boca de

Ysaya, me hizo dello mensagero y amostro aqual parte: en todos ovo yncredulidad y ala Reyna mi Señora dio dello el spiritu de ynteligencia y esfuerço grande, y le fizo de todo heredera como a cara e muy amada fija: la posesion de todo esto fue yo a tomar en su real nombre: la ynorancia enque avian estado todos, quisieron emendalle traspasando el poco saber, a fablar en ynconvinientes y gastos. Su Alteza lo aprovava al contrario, y lo sostuvo fasta que pudo.

§ Siete años se pasaron en la platica y nueve executando cosas muy señaladas e dignas de memoria se pasaron en este tienpo de todo non se fizo concepto: llegue yo y estoy, que non ha nadie tan vil que non piense de ultrajarme: por virtud se contara en el mundo a quien puede no consintillo.

§ Sy yo robara las Yndias o tierra que jaz fase ellas, de que agora es la fabla, del altar de Sant Pedro, y las diera a los moros, non pudieran en España amostrarme mayor enemiga quien creyera tal, adonde ovo siempre tanta nobleza.

§ Yo mucho me quisiera despedir del negocio si fuera onesto para con mi Reyna. El esfuerço de nuestro Señor y desu Alteza fizo que continuase, y por aliviarme algo de los enojos enque a cabsa dela muerte estava, cometi viage nuevo al nuevo cielo y mundo que fasta entonces estava oculto y sy non es tenido

Most virtuous Lady: Though my complaint of the world is new, its habit of ill-using is very ancient. I have had a thousand struggles with it, and have thus far withstood them all, but now neither arms nor counsels avail me, and it cruelly keeps me under water. Hope in the Creator of all men sustains me: His help was always very ready: on another occasion, and not long ago, when I was still more overwhelmed, he raised me with his right arm, saying, O man of little faith, arise; it is I; be not afraid.

I came with so much cordial affection to serve these Princes, and have served them with such service, as has never been heard of or seen.

Of the new heaven and earth which our Lord made, when Saint John was writing the Apocalypse, after what was spoken by the mouth of Isaiah, he made me the messenger, and showed me where it lay. In all men there was disbelief, but to the Queen my Lady he gave the spirit of understanding, and great courage, and made her heiress of all, as a dear and much loved daughter. I went to take possession of all this in her royal name. They sought to make amends to her for the ignorance they had all shown by passing over their little knowledge, and talking of obstacles and expenses. Her Highness, on the other hand, approved of it, and supported it as far as she was able.

Seven years passed in discussion, and nine in execution. During this time very remarkable and noteworthy things occurred whereof no idea at all had been formed. I have arrived at, and am in, such a condition that there is no person so vile but thinks he may insult me; he shall be reckoned in the world as valour itself who is courageous enough not to consent to it.

If I were to steal the Indies or the land which lies towards them, of which I am now speaking, from the altar of Saint Peter, and give them to the Moors, they could not show greater enmity towards me in Spain. Who would believe such a thing where there was always so much magnanimity?

I should have much desired to free myself from this affair had it been honourable towards my Queen to do so. The support of our Lord and of Her Highness made me persevere; and to alleviate in some measure the sorrows which death had caused her, I undertook a fresh voyage to the new heaven and earth which up to that time had remained hidden; and if it is not held

Lxx

resolue & una carta q' al m' d'ho yndias embio al ma d' p'ncipe du
ña & castilla. Al año de 148. vijendo p' d'ho d'ho yndias. 2

- r muy virtuosa g'mora. Si mi queixa & el mundo es mienra (
en uso & maltratado es de muy antiguo / n' ll combató me ha
dado. y a todos existi fusti agora q' no me ap'necho armas
y adifos / con crueldad me tiene echado al fondo. La
esperanza & aquel q' erio d' todos me sostiene / en yerro
fue Siem'p' muy presto : otra vez y no & leyo es tumb' y
mas baxo / me levanto a su brazo d'echo. diciend' / o (ombre
& pora fe. lenitate q' yo soy no ayaxs myeb (
r Yo vine lo amor tan enpanable a pruyz de los p'ncps. y fe
Siem'p' & Seruy. & q' p'mos y oyo y vido /
r El mueno cielo d' tierra q' hasia nro g'ma, r'ijend' Santa fua
a apocario / & p'uo & d'ho por boca & ysaia / me hiso d'ello
mendag' y amostró aquel par / en d'ho (odo y nro d'ho
y ala f'ona my p' d'ho d'ello el sp'u & ynteligencia y effuero
y r'ime / y le f'io & toid heredita como d' cara & muy amada
fija. la posesio & todo esto fue yo d' tomar en su f'etel
nombre. la ynorancia enq' a d'ho estabto d'ho / q' d'ho enq'
dalle traspassando el poco Sabi' / a fablar en ynonijados
y gastos. S. a. lo aprouana al conyario. y lo Sostuno fusti
que p'ubt.
r Si ex. mos y pasaro en la plaza y mune yecurad como m'
g'maladas & dignas & memoria y pasaro en este t'po & toid
no se f'io conyuto. llegue yo y estoy / q' no ha m' die tan
vil q' no p'ienfe & d'ho aarme / por virtud y otara enl
mundo Cayen p'ue & no d'ho t'illo (
r Yo yo f'olara los yndias otra q' az fue el t'ne. & q' agora
es la f'abla. d' altar & San' p'edro. y las d'iera a los mo
ros. non yndiera en esp'ana amostrarme mayor enemiga
y en crevera tal. a d'ho uno Siem'p' tanta nobleza
r Yo m'cho me q' yera & ope'dr el neg'cio Si f'iera onesto
para con my Reyna. Al esfuero & nro S. y d'ho. al f'io
q' o'timase / y por alinjarle algo d'ho enq' d'ho d'ho
d'ho m'cho estana. cometi vinge m'cho Al m'cho cielo y
mundo q' f'usti en d'ho estame oculto y d'ho no es t'ny d'

alli en estima con como los otros dlos / Indice / no es maravilla
 por q̃ julio apareca en yndustria /
 r A. S. pedro abraço Al sp̃d sto y con el otros dgos / y to ds con
 batió ara. y los trabajos y fangas facio mungas en fin de
 to do llenar in bitoria /

este bing de paria qey q' a paziguaria algo por las perlas.
y la fallada el oro en la española. Las perlas más yo
aguntar q' exstar. alagente q' que el congreso de my
buelta por ellas yamy adrechente amedida de fangos. y
yo nolo escry a dñs. a fuc por q' q' ofiera de p' f' el oro
mto 7.

Este me gudio como otras cosas muchas no las pedia en
mi honra de buscarla yo en bica propio y de yara y de la es
panola / o se guar dara mis pñis / e asiendo. Et otro tanto
digo de ozo q yot enja agola / mis q / otanas muerdo y tra
bajos por virtud diuina he llegas a perfectu.

Quand yo fue de paria falle a y la mitad dlo gen^{te} en
la española / al cabo y me ha queffado fasta agora como
un ro. y los yndios por otro cabo granement / en esto
yo me fofeda / y prono dechar el d^{to}. Digo. q^{ue} fus. a.
le enparia con p^{re}mesas e dadinas y franquezas y paga
allego grand quadrilla. q^{ue} endo da la española muy deos
ay d^{to} daga muno y ning^o a m^ugr y fijos. este fofeda
me trabajo hazo. fuele negro de p^{re} y d^{to} daga q^{ue}
luego por d^{to} daga a mas navios y gente. y q^{ue} d^{to} daga
la d^{to} daga d^{to} daga. n. s. ala m^uert. en esto llego
vigintiase a quatro carauelas. ouo d^{to} daga y d^{to} daga
mas no d^{to} daga. Los yndios dixeran e otras muchas d^{to}
los canibales / y enparia / y d^{to} daga una m^uerta e d^{to} daga
otras carauelas q^{ue} traya un f^umo d^{to} daga / mas fue
a m^ulticia. esto fue ya d^{to} daga q^{ue} ya estava muy
f^uta la e^{sp}eranza. q^{ue} s. a. d^{to} daga jamas e enbiar navio
alas yndias ni nos e^{sp}erazlos. y que vulgarment d^{to} daga
q^{ue} en d^{to} daga era m^uerta. /

En adria eneste tpo prono aulgar se otra vez como de ante
mas nro Sntoz no quiso q llegasse a efecto su mal propo
sito. yo tenia propuesto en my & no tocar un cabello a
nadie y aeste por su ingratitud & lagrimas no se pudo
guardar aby como yo lo tenia pensado / am hz no hisiera

there in esteem like the other voyages to the Indies, that is no wonder, because it came to be looked upon as my work.

The Holy Spirit inflamed Saint Peter and twelve others with him, and they all fought here below, and their toils and hardships were many, but last of all they gained the victory.

This voyage to Paria I thought would somewhat appease them on account of the pearls, and of the discovery of gold in Hispaniola. I ordered the pearls to be collected and fished for by people with whom an arrangement was made that I should return for them, and, as I understood, they were to be measured by the bushel. If I did not write about this to their Highnesses, it was because I wished to have first of all done the same thing with the gold.

The result to me in this has been the same as in many other things; I should not have lost them nor my honour, if I had sought my own advantage, and had allowed Hispaniola to be ruined, or if my privileges and contracts had been observed. And I say just the same about the gold which I had then collected, and [for] which with such great afflictions and toils I have, by divine power, almost perfected [the arrangements].

When I went from Paria I found almost half the people of Hispaniola in revolt, and they have waged war against me until now, as against a Moor; and the Indians on the other side grievously [harassed me]. At this time Fojeda arrived and tried to put the finishing stroke: he said that their Highnesses had sent him with promises of gifts, franchises and pay; he gathered together a great band, for in the whole of Hispaniola there are very few save vagabonds, and not one with wife and children. This Fojeda gave me great trouble; he was obliged to depart, and left word that he would soon return with more ships and people, and that he had left the royal person of the Queen our Lady at the point of death. Then Vincent Páñez arrived with four caravels: there was disturbance and mistrust, but no mischief: the Indians talked of many others at the Cannibals [Caribbee Islands] and in Paria; and afterwards spread the news of six other caravels, which were brought by a brother of the Alcalde, but it was with malicious intent. This occurred at the very last, when the hope that their Highnesses would ever send any ships to the Indies was almost abandoned, nor did we expect them; and it was commonly reported that her Highness was dead.

A certain Adrian about this time endeavoured to rise in rebellion again, as he had done previously, but Our Lord did not permit his evil purpose to succeed. I had purposed in myself never to touch a hair of anybody's head, but I lament to say that with this man, owing to his ingratitude, it was not possible to keep that resolve as I had intended: I should not have done less to my

alli en estima asy como los otros delas Indias, non es maravilla, porque salio apareçer de mi yndustria.

§ A Sant Pedro abraso el Spiritu Santo y con el otros dose, y todos combatieron aca, y los trabajos y fatigas fueron muchas en fin de todo llevaron la vitoria.

§ Este viage de Paria crey que apaziguaria algo por las perlas, y la fallada del oro en la Española. Las perlas mande yo ayuntar e pescar, ala gente con quien quedo el concierto de my buelta porellas y a mi conprebender amedida de fanega. Sy yo non lo escrivi a Sus Altezas fue porque asy quisiera aver fecho del oro antes.

§ Esto me salio como otras cosas muchas: non las perdiera ni mi bonrra sy buscara yo mi bien propio, y dexara perder la Española, o se guardaran mis privilegios e asientos. E otro tanto digo del oro que yo tenia agora junto, que con tantas muertes y trabajos por virtud divinal he llegado aperfetto.

§ Quando yo fue de Paria falle casy la mitad dela gente en la Española alçados y me han guerreado fasta agora como a moro, y los Yndios por otro cabo gravemente: enesto vino Fojeda, y provo a echar el sello: dixo que Sus Altezas le embiavan con promesas de dadivas y franquezas y paga: allego grand quadrilla, que en toda la Española muy pocos ay salvo vagamundos y ninguno con muger y fijos. Este Fojeda me trabajo barto: fuele neçesario de se yr y dexo dicho que luego seria debuelta con mas navios y gente, y que dexava la real persona dela Reyna nuestra Señora ala muerte. Enesto llego Viçentianes con quatro caravelas: ovo alboroto y sospecha mas non daño. Los Yndios dixeron de otras muchas a los canibales, y en Paria, y despues una nueva de seys otras caravelas que traya un hermano del alcalde, mas fue con malicia. Esto fue ya ala postre quando ya estava muy rota la esperança que Sus Altezas oviesen jamas de enbiar navio[s] alas Yndias ni nos espararlos, y que vulgar mente dezian que Su Alteza era muerta.

§ Un Adrian eneste tienpo provo aalçarse otra vez como de antes, mas Nuestro Señor no quiso que llegasse aefecto su mal proposito. Yo tenia propuesto en mi de non tocar el cabello a nadie, y a este por su yngratitud con lagrimas non sepudo guardar asy como yo lo tenia pensado: a mi hermano non biziera

menos sy me quisiera matar y robar el Señorío que mi Rey e Reyna me tenían dado enguarda.

§ Este Adrian segund se muestra tenía enbiado a Don Fernando a Xoragua, a allegar algunos sus sequaces, y alla ovo debate con el alcalde, adonde nació discordia de muerte, mas non lleugo a efecto: el alcalde le prendio y a parte desu quadrilla y el caso era que el los justiciara, sy yo non lo proveyera: estovieron presos esperando caravela en que se fuesen. Las nuevas de Fojeda que yo dixé fizieron perder la esperança que ya non vernia.

§ Seys meses avia que yo estava despachado, por venir a Sus Altezas con las buenas nuevas del oro y fuyr de govarnar gente disoluta que non teme a Dios ni a su Rey ni Reyna, llena de achaques y de malicias.

§ Ala gente acabara yo de pagar con seyscientas mill, y para ello avia quatro cientos de diezmos e alguno syn el terçio del oro.

§ Antes de mi partida suplique tantas vezes a Sus Altezas que enbiasen alla a mi costa aquien toviese cargo dela justicia, y despues que falle alçado el alcalde selo suplique de nuevo o por alguna gente o al menos algund criado con cartas, porque mi fama es tal que aunque yo faga yglesias y ospitales, siempre seran dichas espeluncas para ladrones.

§ Proveyeron ya al fin y fue muy al contrario delo que la negoçiaçion demandava: vaya en buen ora pues que fue a su grado.

§ Yo estuve alla doss años syn poder ganar una provision de favor por mi ni por los que alla fuesen y este llevo un arca llena: sy pariran todas a su serviçio Dios lo sabe. Ya por comienço ay franquezas de xx años, que es la edad de un onbre, y se coje el oro, que ovo persona de çinco marcos en quatro oras, de que dire despues mas largo.

§ Sy pluguiesse a Sus Altezas de desfaser un vulgo delos que saben mis fatigas, que mayor daño me ha fecho el mal desyr delas gentes que non me ha aprovechado el mucho servir y guardar su fazienda y señorío, seria limosna, e yo restituydo en mi bonrra, e se fablaria dello en todo el mundo. Porque el negoçio es de calidad, que cada dia ha deser mas sonado y en alta estima.

§ Enesto vino el Comendador Bobadilla a Santo Domingo: yo estava en la Vega, y el Adelantado en Xoragua adonde este Adrian avia fecho cabeça: mas ya todo era llano, y

brother, if he had sought to kill me, and steal the dominion which my King and Queen had given me in trust.

This Adrian, as it appears, had sent Don Ferdinand to Paragua to collect some of his followers, and there a dispute arose with the Alcalde from which a deadly contest ensued, but he (Adrian) did not effect his purpose. The Alcalde seized him and a part of his band, and the fact was that he would have executed them if I had not prevented it; they were kept prisoners awaiting a caravel in which they might depart. The news of Fojeda which I told them, made them lose the hope that he would now come again.

For six months I had been prepared to return to their Highnesses with the good news of the gold, and to escape from governing a dissolute people, who fear neither God, nor their King and Queen, being full of vices and wickedness.

I could have paid the people in full with six hundred thousand, and for this purpose I had four millions of tenths and somewhat more, besides the third of the gold.

Before my departure I many times begged their Highnesses to send there, at my expense, some one to take charge of the administration of justice; and after finding the Alcalde in arms I renewed my supplications to have either some troops or at least some servant of theirs with letters patent; for my reputation is such that even if I build churches and hospitals, they will always be called dens of thieves.

They did indeed make provision at last, but it was the very contrary of what the matter demanded: may it be successful, since it was according to their good pleasure.

I was there for two years without being able to gain a decree of favour for myself or for those who went there, yet this man brought a coffer full: whether they will all redound to their [Highnesses'] service, God knows. Indeed, to begin with, there are exemptions for twenty years, which is a man's lifetime; and gold is collected to such an extent that there was one person who became worth five marks in four hours; whereof I will speak more fully later on.

If it would please their Highnesses to remove the grounds of a common saying of those who know my labours, that the calumny of the people has done me more harm than much service and the maintenance of their [Highnesses'] property and dominion has done me good, it would be a charity, and I should be re-established in my honour, and it would be talked about all over the world; for the undertaking is of such a nature that it must daily become more famous and in higher esteem.

When the Commander Bobadilla came to Santo Domingo, I was at La Vega, and the Adelantado at Paragua, where that Adrian had made a stand, but then all was quiet, and

la terra fua y todos en paz. Al quinto dia llego
crio gouernador y fijo oficial y exsecutione. y apregonos
franquezas de oro y diezmos. y general ment de toda oya
por veinte años que es la fidad de un ombre. y y venga
que pagar a todos. ble que no aoran huydo/ llenam ment
fusta ese dia/ y publico. q ami me a dia de castiar asfessor
y a mis hermanos asi como ha fegho. y q mis mas bol uepa
yo alli motrie de mi linaje. diziend q my emle de gofistas
y de sortegros arde/ esto todo fue de el quinto dia q de
llego como dice/ y estand yo legos abom syn gbi. de
y don venga.

Unas as de on. a. firmadas en blanco de q el llenana una
cantidad/ embio y embio al alló y a su compana cofauore
y encomendas. any mis me castio carta y mi gofeso en
me ha sub fastoy/ pense/ q pensaria Gen tonjera
my cargo. honrraz y fauorecer Cayen pious a fobar a. s. a
y ha sup tana mel y dano/ ya t fastraz aqya co
tando peligros solo costuno.

r quãd yo oye esto crey que este gya como lo de hysda
lo uno dlos otros. templome que oye dlos fruyles. de
cierto. q. s. a. le embiuna. cobrinle yo q don venga fuso
en buen ora/ y q yo estana desparhado para yz ala lora
y fup al moneda de quãto yo tenya. y q cresto dlas
franysas que no se atelerafe/ q esto y el gouernador. q
yo gto daria luego tan llano como la palma. y and
lo tony dlos Religiosos. y el y ellos me dizeo Respuesta
ante gpuso de en yon de guerra. y apremiana a qutos
alli y dan q le jurasen por gouernador. dizeo me
q por. xx años.

r Luego q yo oye de las franysas. pense de dobar. un
yerro tan grande/ y al gya contepto. las qle dio
syn misericordia y calosa de asos tan gruesa. y a gente
vaga impuda. que fuera de misuind para que troqueya
mngz y fijos. publico por galabta para mis. que de
non podia von dnos prouisions. por las nias erand
las fueros. y les mostre las franysas q leuo pua. a
ynub.

r todo esto q yo hize era por dilatar. por q. s. a. fuso
dubido de el estado de la tira. y q ouiese lugar de
tornar amadaza en lo q fuso de. de.

the land rich and all men at peace. On the second day after his arrival he created himself Governor, and appointed officers and made executions, and proclaimed immunities of gold and tenths and in general of everything else for twenty years, which is a man's lifetime, and that he came to pay everybody in full up to that day, even though they had not rendered service; and he publicly notified that, as for me, he had charge to send me in irons, and my brothers likewise, as he has done, and that I should nevermore return thither, nor any other of my family; alleging a thousand disgraceful and discourteous things about me. All this took place on the second day after his arrival, as I have said, and while I was absent at a distance, without my knowing either of him or of his arrival.

Some letters of their Highnesses signed in blank, of which he brought a number, he filled up and sent to the Alcalde and to his company with favours and commendations; to me he never sent either letter or messenger, nor has he done so to this day. Imagine what any one holding my office would think when one who endeavoured to rob their Highnesses, and who has done so much evil and mischief, is honoured and favoured, while he who maintained it at such risks is degraded.

When I heard this, I thought that this affair would be like that of Hojeda or one of the others, but I restrained myself when I learnt for certain from the friars that their Highnesses had sent him. I wrote to him that his arrival was welcome, and that I was prepared to go to the Court and had sold all I possessed by auction; and that with respect to the immunities he should not be hasty, for both that matter and the government I would hand over to him immediately as smooth as my palm. And I wrote to the same effect to the friars, but neither he nor they gave me any answer. On the contrary, he put himself in a warlike attitude, and compelled all who went there to take an oath to him as Governor; and they told me that it was for twenty years.

Directly I knew of those immunities, I thought that I would repair such a great error and that he would be pleased, for he gave them without the need or occasion necessary in so vast a matter; and he gave to vagabond people what would have been excessive for a man who had brought wife and children. So I announced by word and letters that he could not use his patents because mine were those in force; and I showed them the immunities which John Aguado brought.

All this was done by me in order to gain time, so that their Highnesses might be informed of the condition of the country, and that they might have an opportunity of issuing fresh commands as to what would best promote their service in that respect.

ligros selo sostuvo.

§ Quando yo supe esto crey que este seria como lo de Hojeda o uno de los otros, templome que supe de los frailes, de cierto, que Sus Altezas le embiavan. Escrivile yo que su venida fuese en buen ora, y que yo estava despachado para yr ala corte y fecho almoneda de quanto yo tenia, y que en esto de las franquezas que non se acelerase, que esto y el gobierno, que yo selo daria luego tan llano como la palma, y ansy lo escrivi a los religiosos. Ni el ni ellos me dieron respuesta antes se puso el en son de guerra, y apremiava a quantos alli yvan que le jurasen por governador, dixeronme que por xx años.

§ Luego que yo supe destas franquezas, pense de adobar un yerro tan grande y que el seria contento, las quales dio syn neçesidad ni cabsa de cosa tan gruessa, y a gente vaga munda, que fuera demasiado para quien troxiera muger y fijos. Publique por palabra e por cartas, que el non podia usar desus provisiones, porque las mias eran las fuertes, y les mostre las franquezas que llevo Juan Aguado.

§ Todo esto que yo hize era por dilatar, porque Sus Altezas fuesen sabidores del estado dela tierra, y que oviesen lugar de tornar amandar en ello lo que fuesen su servicio.

la tierra rica y todos en paz. El segundo dia que llevo se crio governador y fizo oficiales y exsecuciones, y apregonaron franquezas del oro e diezmos, y generalmente de toda otra cosa por veynte años que es la bedad de un ombre, y que venia para pagar a todos, bien que no avian servido, llena mente fasta ese dia, y publico que ami me avia de embiar en fierros ya mis hermanos ansi como ha fecho, y que nunca mas bolveria yo alli ni otrie de mi linaje, diziendo de mi mill desonestas y descortes cosas. Esto todo fue el segundo dia que el llevo como dixi, y estando yo lexos absente syn saber del ni de su venida.

§ Unas cartas de Sus Altezas firmadas en blanco de que el llevaba una cantidad, enchio y embio al Alcalde y a su compaña con favores y encomiendas. Ami nunca me embio carta ni mensagero ni meba dado fasta oy. Piense, que pensaria quien toviere mi cargo, honrrar y favorecer a quien provo a robar a Sus Altezas y ha fecho tanto mal y daño, y a rastrar a quien con tantos pe-

§ Tales franquezas escusado es delas apregonar en las Yndias los vezinos que han tomado vezindad es logro, porque seles dan las mejores tierras, y a poco valer valeran dozientas mill alcabo delos quatro años que la vezindad se acaba, syn que den un açadonada enellas. Non diria yo asy sy los vezinos fuesen casados mas non ay seys entre todos, que non esten sobre el aviso de ayuntar lo que pudiere[n], y se yr en buen ora. De Castilla seria bien que fuesen, y aun saber quien y como y se poblase de gente honrrada.

§ Yo tenia asentado con estos vezinos que pagarian el terçio del oro, y lo diezmos y esto a su ruego, y lo reçibieron en grand merçed de Sus Altezas. Reprehendilos quando yo oy que se dexavan dello, y esperaba quel comendador faria otro tanto, mas fue alcontrario.

§ Yndignolos contra mi diziendo que yo les queria quitar lo que Sus Altezas les davan, y trabajo de melos echar acuestas y lo hizo, y que escriviesen a Sus

Altezas que no me enbiasen mas al cargo, y ansy selo suplico yo por mi y por toda cosa mia, en quanto non aya otro pueblo. Y me ordeno el conellos pesquisas de maldades que al ynfierno nunca se supo delas semejantes. Allí esta nuestro Señor que escapo a Daniel y alos tres muchachos, con tanto saber y fuerça como tenia y con tanto aparejo, sy le pluguiere como con su gana.

§ Supiera yo remediar todo esto, y lo otro de que esta dicho y ha pasado despues que estoy en las Yndias, sy me consyntiera la voluntad a procurar por mi bien propio, y me fuera onesto, mas el sostener dela justiçia, y acreçentar el señorio de Su Altesa fasta agora me tiene al fondo. Oy endia que se falla tanto oro, ay division enque aya mas ganancia, o yr robando o yr alas minas. Por una muger tan bien se falla çient castellanos como por una labrança, y es mucho en uso, y ay fartos mercaderes que andan buscando muchachas, de nueve a diez son agora enpreçio, de todas bedades ha de tener un bueno.

§ Digo que la fuerça del mardesyr de desconçertados meba mas dañado que mis serviçios fecho provecho, mal exemplo es porel presente y por lo futuro. Fago juramento que cantidad de onbres han ydo alas Yndias, que non meresçian el agua para conDios y conel mundo, y agora buelven alla, y seles consiente.

It is useless to publish such immunities in the Indies: to the settlers who have taken up residence it is a pure gain, for the best lands are given to them, and at a low valuation they will be worth two hundred thousand at the end of the four years when the period of residence is ended, without their digging a spadeful in them. I would not speak thus if the settlers were married, but there are not six among them all who are not on the look out to gather what they can and depart speedily. It would be a good thing if they should go from Castile, and also if it were known who and what they are, and if the country could be settled with honest people.

I had agreed with those settlers that they should pay the third of the gold, and the tenths, and this at their own request; and they received it as a great labour from their Highnesses. I reprobed them when I heard that they ceased to do this, and hoped that the Commander would do likewise, but he did the contrary.

He incensed them against me by saying that I wanted to deprive them of what their Highnesses had given them; and he endeavoured to set them at variance with me, and did so; and he induced them to write to their Highnesses that they should never again send me back to the government, and I likewise make the same supplication to them for myself and for my whole family, as long as there are not different inhabitants. And he together with them ordered inquisitions concerning me for wickednesses the like whereof were never known in hell. Our Lord, who rescued Daniel and the three children, is present with the same wisdom and power as he had then, and with the same means, if it should please him and be in accordance with his will.

I should know how to remedy all this, and the rest of what has been said and has taken place since I have been in the Indies, if my disposition would allow me to seek my own advantage, and if it seemed honourable to me to do so, but the maintenance of justice and the extension of the dominion of Her Highness has hitherto kept me down. Now that so much gold is found, a dispute arises as to which brings more profit, whether to go about robbing or to go to the mines. A hundred castillanos are as easily obtained for a woman as for a farm, and it is very general, and there are plenty of dealers who go about looking for girls; those from nine to ten are now in demand, and for all ages a good price must be paid.

I assert that the violence of the calumny of turbulent persons has injured me more than my services have profited me; which is a bad example for the present and for the future. I take my oath that a number of men have gone to the Indies who did not deserve water in the sight of God and of the world; and now they are returning thither, and leave is granted them.

o digo que en d'zir yo quel comendador nō podia dar franq
zas que hize yo lo quel donna / bñe que yo ael dixi de
que era para dela tar fastaq ons alior tonjessen el d
vifo d'la trā y tornaron amādar lo q fuesse En f. m.

r chemistolos aellos conmigo / Y el parece / y como y uno
y y como que formas q ya lo venja y bñ encendi-
dos que se dir que ha gastado mucho por venir a este
negocio / no es dello mas de lo q oyo. Yo mira oy
quel p[er]quisido allegase los ffebelles y los tomase por
testigos con aquel que gouerna aellos ny rostrós
y fe / ny dignos dell.

Si S. la. mandasen fazez una xesquisa general alli vo
digo yo que veria por grand mayta tulla como la yola
no or fuml.

no se fime.
 Yo creo q se acordara vna mnd quib la tormenta yn-
 selho me estho en hoboa q fuy d'chad falsa mem que
 a vna yo yd alla al tto para darle las yndias. do
 pns Supero. S. a. el conqario y q to d fuc co mali
 cia.

bien q yo sea pax. nose qeu me tenga portun turpe
q yo no conozca que a vny las yndias fue o myas q yo
no me pudiera Sustener en aynda de principe.

[illegible]

r. *Deus ye agora anse esto vtra vna maldezir a malha
 e ope my voluntad. Jui qe co soa. q my en suenro de
 viera llegar a memoria. Jui q las formas y fofos
 el comz bouadilla a malha las qere alumbraz en*

I assert that when I declared that the Commander could not grant immunities, I did what he desired, although I told him that it was to cause delay until their Highnesses should receive information from the country, and should command anew what might be for their service.

He excited their enmity against me, and he seems, from what took place and from his behaviour, to have come as my enemy and as a very vehement one; or else the report is true that he has spent much to obtain this employment. I do not know more about it than what I hear. I never heard of an inquisitor gathering rebels together and accepting them, and others devoid of credit and unworthy of it, as witnesses against their Governor.

If their Highnesses were to make a general inquisition there, I assure you that they would look upon it as a great wonder that the island does not founder.

I think your Ladyship will remember that when, after losing my sails, I was driven into Lisbon by a tempest, I was falsely accused of having gone there to the King in order to give him the Indies. Their Highnesses afterwards learned the contrary, and that it was entirely malicious.

Although I may know but little, I do not think anyone considers me so stupid as not to know that even if the Indies were mine I could not uphold myself without the help of some prince.

If this be so, where could I find better support and security than in the King and Queen our Lords, who have raised me from nothing to such great honour, and are the most exalted princes of the world on sea and on land, and who consider that I have rendered them service, and preserve to me my privileges and rewards; and if anyone infringes them, their Highnesses increase them still more, as was seen in the case of John Aguado; and they order great honour to be conferred upon me, and, as I have already said, their Highnesses have received service from me, and keep my sons in their household; all which could by no means happen with another prince, for where there is no affection, everything else fails.

I have now spoken thus in reply to a malicious slander, but against my will, as it is a thing which should not recur to memory even in dreams; for the Commander Bobadilla maliciously seeks in this way to set his own conduct and actions in a brighter light;

pieron Sus Altezas el contrario y que todo fue con malicia.

§ Bien que yo sepa poco, no se quien me tenga por tan turpe que yo no conozca que aunque las Yndias fuesen mias que yo non me pudiera sustener syn ayuda de Príncipe.

§ Sy esto es asy adonde pudiera yo tener mejor arimo y seguridad que en el Rey e Reyna, nuestros Señores, que de nada me han puesto entanta honrra y son los mas altos Príncipes por llamar y porla tierra del mundo, y los quales tienen que yo les aya servido, y me guardan mis privilegios e mercedes, y sy alguien melos quebranta Sus Altezas melos acrecientan con ventaja, como se vido enlo de Juan Aguado, y me mandan fazer mucha honrra, y como dixe ya, Sus Altezas reçibieron de mi servicio, y tienen amis fijos sus criados, lo que en ninguna manera, pudiera esto llegar con otro Príncipe, porque adonde no ay amor todo lo otro çesa.

§ Dixe yo agora ansi esto contra un maldezir con malicia, y contra mi voluntad, porque es cosa, que ni en sueños deviera llegar amemoria, porque las formas y fechos del Comendador Bovadilla, con malicia las quiere alumbrar en

§ Digo que en dezir yo que el Comendador non podia dar franquezas que hize yo lo que el deseava, bien que yo ael dixese que era para dilatar fastaque Sus Altezas toriessen el aviso dela tierra, y tornasen amandar lo que fuesse su servicio.

§ Enemistolos aellos conmigo, y el pareçe segund se ovo y segund sus formas, que ya lo venia y bien ençendido, o es que se dise que ha gastado mucho por venir a este negoçio; non se dello mas delo que oyo. Yo nunca oy que el pesquisidor allegase los rebeldes y los tomase por testigos contra aquel que gobierna aellos ni a otros syn fe, ni dignos della.

§ Si Sus Altezas mandasen fazer una pesquisa general alli vos digo yo que verian por grand maravilla como la ysla non se funde.

§ Yo creo que se acordara Vuestra Merced quando la tormenta syn velas me echo en Lisboa que fuy acusado falsa mente que avia yo ydo alla al Rey para darle las Yndias. Despues su-

esto, mas yo le fare ver conel braço ysquierdo, que su poco saber y grand covardia con desordenada codicia, le ha fecho caer en ello.

§ Ya dixe como yo le escrivi, y alos frayles, y luego parti asy como le dixe muy solo, por que toda la gente estava conel Adelantado, y tan bien por le quitar de sospecha. El quando lo supo echo a Don Diego preso, en una caravela cargado de fierros, y a mi en llegando hizo otro tanto, y despues al Adelantado quando vino, ni le fable mas, ael ni consintio, que fasta oy nadie me aya hablado, y fago juramento que non puedo pensar por que sea yo preso.

§ La primera diligencia quel fizo, fue a tomar el oro, el qual ovo sin medida ni peso, e yo absente. Dixo que queria el pagar dello ala gente, y segund oy, para sy hizo la primera parte y enbia por rescate rescatadores nuevos. Deste oro tenia yo apartado ciertas

muestras, granos muy gruesos, como buevos de ansara e de gallina, y de pollas y de otras muchas fechuras, que algunas personas tenian cogido en breve espacio, conque se alegrasen Sus Altezas y por ello comprehendiesen el negocio, con una cantidad de piedras grandes llenas de oro. Este fue el primero a sedar con malicia, porque Sus Altezas no toviesen este negocio en algo fasta que el tenga fecho el nido de que se da buena priesa. El oro que esta por fundir mengua al fuego, una[s] cadenas que pesarian fasta veynte marcos nunca se han visto.

§ Yo he seydo muy agraviado enesto del oro, mas aunque delas perlas, porque non lo he traydo a Su Alteza.

§ El Comendador en todo lo que le parecio que me dañaria, luego fue puesto en obra. Ya dixe con dc.M. pagara a todos syn robar anadie, y que avia mas de quatro quentos de diesmos e alguaziladgo, syn tocar enel oro. Hizo unas larguezas que son de risa, bien que creo que encomenço en si la primera parte. Alla, lo sabran Sus Altezas quando le mandaren tomar cuenta, enespecial sy yo estoviese aella. El no faze sy non desyr que se deve grand suma, y es la que

but I shall easily show him that his small knowledge and great cowardice, together with his inordinate cupidity, have caused him to fail therein.

I have already said that I wrote to him and to the friars, and immediately set out, as I told him, almost alone, because all the people were with the Adelantado, and likewise in order to prevent suspicion on his part. When he heard this, he seized Don Diego and sent him on board a caravel loaded with irons, and did the same to me upon my arrival, and afterwards to the Adelantado when he came; nor did I speak to him any more, nor to this day has he allowed anyone to speak to me; and I take my oath that I cannot understand why I am made a prisoner.

He made it his first business to seize the gold, which he did without measuring or weighing it, and in my absence: he said that he wanted it to pay the people, and according to what I hear he assigned the chief part to himself and sent fresh exchangers for the exchanges. Of this gold I had put aside certain specimens, very big lumps, like the eggs of geese, hens and pullets, and of many other shapes, which some persons had collected in a short space of time, in order that their Highnesses might be gladdened, and might comprehend the business upon seeing a quantity of large stones full of gold. This collection was the first to be given away, with malicious intent, so that their Highnesses should not hold the matter in any account until he has feathered his nest, which he is in great haste to do. Gold which is for melting diminishes at the fire: some chains which would weigh about twenty marks have never been seen again!

I have been more distressed about this matter of the gold than even about the pearls, because I have not brought it to Her Highness.

The Commander at once set to work upon anything which he thought would injure me. I have already said that with six hundred thousand I could pay everyone without defrauding anybody, and that I had more than four millions of tenths and constabulary [dues], without touching the gold. He made some free gifts which are ridiculous, though I believe that he began by assigning the chief part to himself. Their Highnesses will find it out when they order an account to be obtained from him, especially if I should be present thereat. He does nothing but reiterate that a large sum is owing, and it is what

esto / mas yo le fare vez con el bran y tenerd. que se
pueda saber y grand conazda con d'oro y nada a d'una. le ha
fallo caer en ello i.

i Ya dize como yole cony. y a los frayles / y luego parti
a y como le dize muy Solo por q toda la gente estana
con el a d'untab. y tan he por le otaz de Gosspecha. Al
quando lo supo c'ho a don diego preso. en una canuela carga
do de fierros. y a y en llegando h'vo otro t'ano. y d'opne
al a d'untab quando vino. y le fable mas. ael y d'f'm'tio. q
fasta oy n'adie me aya fable d'. y fago juram q no puedo
pensar por q sea yo preso i.

i La prima diligencia q se f'vo. fue a tomar el oro. el qual
ono sin medida y preso. Al y o abden. dize q f'ria de
pagar d'lo ala gente. y q' como oy. q' y h'vo la p'ma p'te
y a b'ia por d'f'gate d'f'gatab' muenos. d'or oro tenia
yo apartab d'ietas m'ietas granos muy gruesos como
huenos de ansara y de gallina / y de pollas y de otras m
tas f'aburas q algunos p'onos tenia cogidos en brene es
pacio. cony q' a l'g'rasen. S. a. y por ello comprehend'or
de neg'ro. con una cantidad de piedras gr'ates llenas de
oro. este fue el y a y dar a malicia. por q. S. a. no to
m'or este neg'ro en d'lo f'vo q' el tenga f'cho de m' d'
de q' da b'ia p'iesa. de oro q' esta por f'fundir m' g'na.
al fuego. una caldero q' a y f'vo d'eym m' a y
m' d' h'and visto i.

yo f'vo d' muy agruyab en esto de oro. mas a don q' d'las
perlas. por q' no lo he traydo a S. a. /

i Al comz en d'lo q' le parecio q' me d'unaria. luego fue
puesto en obra. ya dize con. de l'. pagara a todos syn
lo bar a m' die. y q' a b'ia mas de m' q's. de d'ies m'os
e alguazilado. y n'toran aul oro. h'vo unas lue
y azas q' d'or de y f'ia. b'ien q' creo q' enomeo en si la
prima p'or. alla lo d'obra. S. a. quando le m'adare
tomar d'icta. en f'perie y y o estoyese d'ella. Al
no f'or d'eyo d'or q' d'ue grand suma. y se la q'

pluguera a. n. s. q. s. a. le caribe ael oauto dss anoch
poi que gr que yo fuora ya libre admandalo val die fama
gr me qntara m honrra nla perdiera. Diós es Justo
il ha sti que gr sepa poi que yomo.

allí me juzgan como agovernada que fue nalgua. Caballeros de villa
puesta en ligam y adonde las leyes de puebla guardan por ent
sin temor que se pierda todo. (y trabo grande agruio)

Yo dengo de Sei Juzando como capitán que fue de España a con-
quistar fasta las yndias agente belicosa y mucha vez os
tumbro y otra cosa muy contraria. los quales bien por
Siempre y mueren sin puello acentado / y nos otros / y a
donde por voluntad alguna se pueste de el Senorio de
Ely e de la Reyna nros Señores o por mueren / y por donde lo
espana que heya de a por es clamor Lira 7.

Yo deus de Ser Indigno como capitan que de tanto tpo.
fusta oy trae las armas deuestras Sin las de par una por
y de mualeros de uinguitas y el uso / y no de letras / dho
Si fueren de Griegos / o de Romanos / o otros modinos
de q. ay tanos y tan nobles en espina / e otra yusa / e
grande de uyo. Por en las yndias no ay pueblo ni asieto

r El oro y perlas ya esta abierta la puerta. y cantidad de
 toda. piedras preciosas y especiería. y de otras mill cosas
 y prometē esperaz firme ment. y mas mas mas me
 se como conl nobi de mo amor que dize al primer vinge
 diez como dize la negocia. El arabia felice fusta la
 meca. como yo rom. a. s. a. a. andino de torra cula
 Espuesta de la repartio el mar y tierra. a los porto
 quedes y de otros vinger de de colucuti. diez como
 le dize y de por por. en el monest de la mepora da.

r Las medas el oro q yo dire q daria. con q dia de
nubidad estubo yo muy afeigado. quessendo dlo na
los xanos. y de yndios en xermy de dlo to d. y con
y yndios la vida. me a solo no con milagros me
yo dixo effuerra notemos. yo pioneere en dlo los fies

I have said, and even less. I have been much distressed that there should be sent concerning me an inquisitor who is aware that if the inquisition which he returns is very grave he will remain in possession of the government.

Would that it had pleased our Lord that their Highnesses had sent him or some one else two years ago, for I know that I should now be free from scandal and infamy, and that my honour would not be taken from me, nor should I lose it. God is just, and will make known the why and the wherefore.

They judge me over there as they would a governor who had gone to Sicily, or to a city or town placed under regular government, and where the laws can be observed in their entirety without fear of ruining everything; and I am greatly injured thereby.

I ought to be judged as a captain who went from Spain to the Indies to conquer a numerous and warlike people, whose customs and religion are very contrary to ours; who live in rocks and mountains, without fixed settlements, and not like ourselves; and where, by the divine will, I have placed under the dominion of the King and Queen, our sovereigns, a second world, through which Spain, which was reckoned a poor country, has become the richest.

I ought to be judged as a captain who for such a long time up to this day has borne arms without laying them aside for an hour, and by gentlemen adventurers and by custom, and not by letters, unless they were from Greeks or Romans, or others of modern times of whom there are so many and such noble examples in Spain; or otherwise I receive great injury, because in the Indies there is neither town nor settlement.

The gate to the gold and pearls is now open, and plenty of everything—precious stones, spices and a thousand other things—may be surely expected, and never could a worse misfortune befall me; for by the name of our Lord the first voyage would yield them just as much as would the traffic of Arabia Felix as far as Mecca, as I wrote to their Highnesses by Antonio de Torres in my reply respecting the repartition of the sea and land with the Portuguese; and afterwards it would equal that of Calicut, as I told them and put in writing at the monastery of the Mejorada.

The news of the gold that I said I would give is, that on the day of the Nativity, while I was much tormented, being harassed by wicked Christians and by Indians, and when I was on the point of giving up everything and, if possible, escaping from life, our Lord miraculously comforted me and said, 'Fear not violence, I will provide for all things: the seven

divina he puesto so el señorío del Rey e dela Reyna nuestros Señores otro mundo, y que hera dicha pobre es la mas rica.

§ Yo devo de ser judgado como capitan que de tanto tienpo fasta oy trae las armas acuestas sin las dexar una ora y de cavalleros de conquistas y del uso, y no de letras, salvo si fuesen de Griegos o de Romanos o otros modernos de que ay tantos y tan nobles en España o de otra guisa reçibo grande agravio, porque en las Yndias no ay pueblo ni asiento.

§ Del oro y perlas ya esta abierta la puerta, y cantidad de todo, piedras preciosas y espeçieria, y de otras mill cosas sepuede esperar firme mente, y nunca mas mal me viniese como conel nonbre de Nuestro Señor que le daria el primer viage, asy como diera la negoçiaçion del Arabia felix fasta la Meca, como yo escrivi a Sus Altezas con Antonio de Torres en la respuesta dela repartición del mar y tierra con los Portugueses y despues viniera alo dc Colucuti, asy como le dixey di por escripto, enel monesterio dela Mejorada.

§ Las nuevas del oro que yo dixey que daria, son que dia de Nabadad estando yo muy aflegido, gucrreado delos malos Cristianos y de Yndios en termino de dexar todo, y escapar sy pudiese la vida, me consolo Nuestro Señor milagrosa menie y dixo Esfuerça no temas, yo provecre entodos los siete

yo dixey y no tanto Yo he sido mucho agraviado en que se aya enbiado pesquidor sobre mi, que sepa que sy la pesquisa que el enbiare fuere mui grave que el quedara enel govierno.

§ Pluguiera a Nuestro Señor que Sus Altezas le enbiaran ael o aotro doss años ha por que se que yo fuera ya libre descandalo y de difamia, y no se me quitara mi honrra ni la perdiera. Dios es justo, y ha de hazer que se sepa por que y como.

§ Alli me juzgan como a Governador que fue a Çiçilia, o çibdad o villa puesta en regimiento y adonde las leyes se pueden guardar por entero syntemor que se pierda todo, y reçibo grande agravio.

§ Yo devo de ser juzgado como capitan que fue de España a conquistar fasta las Yndias a gente belicosa y mucha y de costumbres y seta a nos mui contraria, los quales biven por sierras y montes sin pueblo asentado, ni [como] nosotros, y adonde por voluntad por donde la España

años del termino del oro, no son pasados y enello y enlo otro te dare remedio.

§ Ese dia supe que avia lxxxº leguas de tierra y entodo cabo dellas minas. El parecer agora es, que sea toda una. Algunos han cogido cxx castillanos en undia, e otros xc, y seba llegado fasta ccl, del fasta lxx, otros muchos de xv fasta l, es tenido buen jornal, y muchos lo continuan. El comun es vi fasta xii, y quien de aqui abaxa no va contento. Parece tambien que estas minas son como las otras que responden enlos dias no ygual mente. Las minas son nuevas y los cogedores. El parecer de todos es que aunque vaya alla toda Castilla, que por torpe que sea la persona, que no abaxara de un castillano o doss cadadia y agora es esto ansy en fresco. Es verdad que tienen algund Indio, mas el negocio consiste enel Cristiano. Ved que discricion fue de Bobadilla dar todo por ninguno y quatro quentos de diezmos, syn cabsa, ni ser requerido, syn primero lo notificar a Sus Altezas. Y el daño no es este solo.

§ Yo se que mis hierros non han sydo con fin de fazer mal, y creo que Sus Altezas lo tienen asy como yo lo digo, y se y veo que usan de misericordia, con quien maliciosa mente les diserve. Yo creo y tengo por muy cierto que muy mejor e mas piedad avran conmigo que cay enello con ynorancia y forçosa mente como sabran despues por entero, y el qual soy su fechora, y miraran amis servicios y conoçeran de cada dia que son muy avantajados. Todo pornan en una balança asy como nos cuenta la sacra escriptura que sera el bien conel mal el dia del Juyzio.

§ Sy toda via mandan que otra me judgue, lo qual no espero, y que sea por pesquisa delas Yndias, muy humill mente les suplico, que enbien alla doss personas de conçiencia y honrrados ami costa, los quales creo que fallaran de ligero, agora que se falla el oro, v marcos en quatro oras. Con esto, y syn ello es necesario que lo provean.

§ El Comendador, en llegando a Santo Domingo, se aposento en mi casa asy como la fallo, asy dio todo por suyo. Vaya en buen ora que quiza lo avia menester. Corsario nunca tal uso con mercader. De mis escripturas tengo yo mayor quexa

years of the term of the gold have not elapsed, and in that and in everything else I will afford thee a remedy.

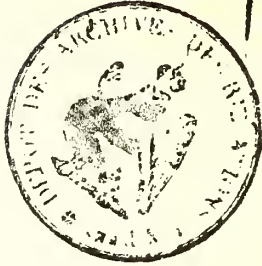
On that day I learned that there were eighty leagues of land with mines at every point thereof. The opinion now is that it is all one. Some have collected a hundred and twenty castillanos in one day, and others ninety, and even the number of two hundred and fifty has been reached. From fifty to seventy, and in many more cases from fifteen to fifty, is considered a good day's work, and many carry it on. The usual quantity is from six to twelve, and anyone obtaining less than this is not satisfied. It seems too that these mines are like others, and do not yield equally every day. The mines are new, and so are the workers: it is the opinion of everybody that even if all Castile were to go there, every individual, however inept he might be, would not obtain less than one or two castillanos daily, and now it is only commencing. It is true that they keep Indians, but the business is in the hands of the Christians. Behold what discernment Bobadilla had, when he gave up everything for nothing, and four millions of tenths, without any reason or even being requested, and without first notifying it to their Highnesses. And this is not the only loss.

I know that my errors have not been committed with the intention of doing evil, and I believe that their Highnesses regard the matter just as I state it; and I know and see that they deal mercifully even with those who maliciously act to their disservice. I believe and consider it very certain that their clemency will be both greater and more abundant towards me, for I fell therein through ignorance and the force of circumstances, as they will know fully hereafter; and I indeed, am their creature, and they will look upon my services, and will acknowledge day by day that they are much profited. They will place everything in the balance, even as Holy Scripture tells us good and evil will be at the day of judgment.

If, however, they command that another person do judge me, which I cannot believe, and that it be by inquisition in the Indies, I very humbly beseech them to send thither two conscientious and honourable persons at my expense, who I believe will easily, now that gold is discovered, find five marks in four hours. In either case it is needful for them to provide for this matter.

The Commander on his arrival at Santo Domingo took up his abode in my house, and just as he found it so he appropriated everything to himself. Well and good; perhaps he was in want of it. A pirate never acted thus towards a merchant. About my papers I have a greater grievance,

q' ay melas dya tomado. q' jamas pde ynd ~~con~~
 una y a q' lras d' mas m' d' culpa (es) a tenia mas C
 culas. Sed q' justo y onesto p'rog' d' d' ar. d' q' uo
 de aya f'p. med' q' aya d' d' con termino d' justit
 d' l'no. abolut' m'or. d' d' d' m' d' e' f' d' d' d' d'
 fueras. y p' d' como d' d' d' d' d' d' d' d' d' d'
 en espere la y' d' d' d' d' d' d' d' d' d' d' d' d' d'



for he has so completely deprived me of them that I have never been able to obtain a single one from him; and those that would have been most useful in my exculpation are precisely those which he has kept most concealed. Behold the just and honest inquisitor! Whatever he may have done, they tell me that there has been an end to justice, except in an arbitrary form. God our Lord is present with his strength and wisdom, as of old, and always punishes in the end, especially ingratitude and injuries.

que asy melas aya tomado, que jamas sele pudo sacar una, y aquellas de mas mi desculpa [que mas me avian de aprovechar en mi desculpa, Navarrete: tom. i., p. 275], esas tenia mas ocultas. Ved que justo y onesto pesqui-

sydor. Cosa de quantas el aya fecho me disen que aya sydo con termino de justicia, salvo absoluta mente. Dios nuestro Señor esta con sus fuerças, y sela [saber] como solia, y castiga en todo cabo, en especial la yngratitud de [e] injurias.

[NOTE.—*The Paris CODEX ends on the reverse of f^o. LXXV (our page 264). The three holograph letters of Christopher Columbus which are here added, with the Decree of the Republic of Genoa, a century and a half later, are of interest as they refer to the disposal and destination of the two cartularies or “Books of Privileges.”*

Two of the letters are to Nicolò Oderigo, the Genoese ambassador; the other, second in point of date, is to the famous Office of St. George.

See Chapters I. and VIII. of Mr. Harrisse’s Introduction to the present work.]



Señor,—*La soledad en que nos habeyz desado non se puede dezir. El libro de mys escrituras, di amiçer Françisco de Ribarol, para que os le enbie, con otro traslado de cartas mesajeras. Del recabdo y el lugar que porneys en ello, os pido por merçed que lo escrivays aDon Diego. Otro tal se acabara, y se os enbiara por la mesma guisa, y el mesmo miçer Françisco: en ello fallereys escritura nueva. Sus Altezas me prometieron de me dar todo lo que me pertence y de poner [en] posesion de todo aDon Diego como veyreys. Al Senor mi[çer] Juan Luys y ala Señora madona Catalina escrivo. La carta va con esta. Yo estoy de partida en nonbre de la Santa Trinidad con el primer buen tiempo, con mucho atabio. Si Geronimo*

de Santi Esteban viene debeme esperar y no se enb[ali]jar con nada por que tomar[a]n del lo que pudieren y despues le desaran en blanco. Venga aca y el Rey y la Reyna le recibiran fasta que yo venga. Nuestro Señor os aya en su santa guardia. Fecha a xxi de março en Sebilla 1502.

Alo que mandardes.

Sir,—The loneliness in which you have left us cannot be told. I have given the book of my writings to Messer Francesco di Ribarola, in order that he may send it to you, with another transcript of letters missive. Respecting the receipt thereof, and the place in which you will put it, I beg you to be so good as to write to Don Diego. Another similar one shall be finished and sent to you in the same manner, and by the same Messer Francesco; you will find a new writing in it. Their Highnesses made me a promise to give me all that belongs to me, and to put Don Diego into possession of everything, as you will see. I am writing to Messer Gian Luigi and to the Signora my Lady Caterina; the letter is going with this one. I am on the point of setting out, in the name of the Holy Trinity, with the first fine weather, with a great equipment. If Girolamo da Santo-Stefano comes, he must wait for me, and not burden himself with anything, because they will take from him whatever they can, and will then leave him bare. Let him come hither, and the King and Queen will receive him until I arrive. May Our Lord have you in his holy keeping. Done on the 21st of March, in Seville, 1502.

At your command

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Xpo FERENS.

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X M Y

Xpo FERENS.

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finor

la solitud i q nos habiyo

dehdo no se puede dezir, el libro de myo. S. Litu
 ras, de amior fr^o de. F. barol, ya q os lo i. bar, co otro
 dehasde de cartas misas. F. barol, del dehasde y el lugar
 q por myo i. illo, os pudo por m. d. q lo i. barol
 ande dingo, otro tal q. acobado, y q os i. barol
 por la misma guisa, q el misio m. ar. fr^o, i. illo
 folletoys. S. Litu. m. d. // S. a. m. p. r. o. n. t. u. r. o
 de m. d. a. t. o. d. o. l. o. q. m. p. t. m. y. d. p. o. m. i. p. o. s. i. t. i. o
 de t. o. d. o. m. d. d. o. c. o. m. o. b. i. g. n. i. o. // al S. m. i. r. f. u. a
 l. u. y. d. y. l. a. S. m. a. d. r. a. c. a. t. a. l. i. n. a. i. l. l. o. // l. a. c. a. r. t. a
 v. a. c. o. i. t. a. // y. o. i. t. a. y. d. p. a. r. t. i. d. a. i. n. o. b. r. e. d. l. a.
 s. a. n. t. a. t. r. i. n. i. d. a. d. c. o. e. l. p. r. i. m. e. r. b. u. e. t. y. o. // c. o. m. u. n. g. o. a. t. a. b. i. o
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 q. p. u. d. i. r. e. y. d. i. p. u. s. l. o. d. e. s. a. r. a. i. b. l. a. n. c. o. // v. i. g. n.
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 m. o. S. o. s. a. y. i. n. s. a. n. t. a. g. u. a. r. d. a. // l. e. g. a. d. o. r.
 d. m. a. r. i. o. i. b. i. l. l. a. i. S. o. r.

al S. m. d. a. r. d. e.

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 S. A. S.
 X M Y
 XPO FERENS

may nobly know

En el cuerpo and aca / el coraçon fhe alv de gemio / nro / S / m^{or} gabigo la mayra
 mitad / G dppms de dadiu el aja fheo made / las cosas de my mprisa ya lazi
 y fasia gra lumbri- / si la fcuridad del gobur no nō le incobrura / yo bati
 alas yndias = sobre de la fanta himidad ya bñar lingo / y por q yo soy
 mortal yo dho a dho dugo my ffo q de la dñta toda q se obivir / q os
 acorda ali os el dñmo de toda ella cada bñ año ya jupri / ya = des
 cunto de la dñta del bñgo y bñm y otras bñaliss como dñas / si ita
 dñz furi algo kabilid / y si rō kabilid la voluntad q yo tengo /
 arto ffo myo vos pido por mñad q tengayd = comñdado / myor
 mycolo de obivgo fabi de myo fagos mas q yo ptop / y al f
 = brado el = fñd de myo pñillegios y carta q a los pongo
 = bñna guar dia / flegaria q los bñpds / el dñy y fa dñy m
 myo . S . m^{or} quito gonvlar nro q mñca / la fanta himidad
 vos nro pñonas guar dia y el muy magniffo ofiio acti fñ
 folla = fñella arto dras de abril de 1502 /

el almirante mayor de mar oceano y biso de
gobernador general de las yslas y tierra firme
de esta jurisdiccion de el Reyno de Espana myos y
capitan general de la mar y del golfo //

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^{.s.} A ^{.s.}
X M Y
X̄^o FERENS



Most Noble Gentlemen,—

Although my body goes about here, my heart is over there continually. Our Lord has conferred on me the greatest favour that, since David, he has conferred on anyone. The fruits of my undertaking are already manifest, and would make a great show if the obscurity of the government did not overshadow them. I am going again to the Indies in the name of the Holy Trinity, with the intention of returning at once; and since I am mortal I leave it to Don Diego, my son, that of the entire revenue which shall be received he is to pay you over there the tenth of it all, yearly, for ever, towards the reduction of the dues on corn and wine and other eatable provisions. If this tenth shall amount to anything, accept it, and if not, accept the good will which I bear. I beg of you, as a favour, to take this my son under your protection. Messer Nicolo de Oderigo knows more about my affairs than I do myself, and I have sent him the transcript of my privileges and letters in order that he may place them in safe keeping. I should be glad if you would look at them. The King and the Queen, my Lords, desire to honour me more than ever. May the Holy Trinity preserve your noble persons, and increase your most magnificent Office. Done in Seville, on the second day of April, 1502.

The High Admiral of the Ocean, and Viceroy and Governor General of the islands and mainland of Asia and the Indies of the King and of the Queen, my Lords, and their Captain General of the Sea, and Member of their Council.

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Xpo FERENS.

Oderigo sabe de mys fechos mas que yo propio, y ael he enbiado el treslado de mys privilegios y carta[s] para que los ponga en buena guardia. Folgaria que los viesedes. El Rey y la Reyna mys Señores me quieren honrrar mas que nunca. La Santa Trinidad vuestras nobles personas guarde y el muy magnifico oficio acreciente. Fecha en Sebilla ados dias de Abril de 1502.

El Almirante mayor del mar oceano y Viso Rey y Governador General delas yslas y tierra fir[me] de Asia e Yndias del Rey e dela Reyna mys señores y s[u] Capitan General dela mar y del su consejo.

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X M Y

Xpo FERENS.

Muy Nobles Señores,
—Bien que el cuerpo
ande aca, el coraçon
esta ali de continuo.
Nuestro Señor me ha
fecho la mayo[r]
merçed que despues
de Dabid el aya fecho
anadi. Las cosas
de my inpresa ya
luzen y farian gran
lumbre, si la escuri-
dad del gobierno non
le incobriera. Yo
boelv[o] alas Yndias
en nonbre de la Santa
Trinidad para tor-
nar luego, y por que
yo soy mortal yo
deso a Don Diego
my fijo que de la
Renta toda que se
oviere, que os acuda
ali con el diezmo de
toda ella cada um
año para sienpre,
para en descuento de
la Renta del trigo y
vino y otras bitualias
comederas. Si este
diezmo fuere algo
reçebildo, y si non
reçebid la voluntad
que yo tengo. Aeste
fijo myo vos pido
por merçed que ten-
gays encomendado.
Myçer Nycolo de



Virtuoso Señor,—
Quando yo parti
para el viaje de
adonde yo vengo os
fable largo; creo que
de todo esto esto-
bistes en buena me-
moria. Crebi que
en llegando falleria
yo vuestras cartas
yaum persona con
palabra. Tambien
aese tienpo dese a
Francisco de Ribarol
un libro de traslados
de cartas, yotro de
mis privilegios en
una barjaca de cor-
doban colorado con su
çerradura de plata,
y dos cartas para el
oficio de San Georgi,
al qual atribuya yo
el diezmo de my
Renta, para en des-
cuento delos drechos
del trigo yotros bas-
timentos. De nada
desto todo seynuebas.
Miçer Francisco diz
que todo llego alla en
salvo. Si ansi es,
descortesia fue deses
Señores de San
Georgi de non haber
dado respuesta, ny-
por ello han acres-
çentado la hazienda.
Y esto es causa que
se diga que quien
sirve acomun non
sirve anigun. Otro
libro de mys pri-
vilegios como lo sobre
dicho dese en Calis,
a Franco Catanio
portador desta, para
que tambien os en-
biase, el uno y el
otro fuesen puestos
en buen recabdo,
adonde avos fuese
bien visto. Una

carta regeby del Rey y dela Reyna mys Señores a ese tienpo de my partida; ali esta escrita; vedela
que vino muy buena; puriende Don Diego non fue puesto en la posesion, ansi como fue la promesa.
Al tienpo que yo estaba en las Yndias escrivy a Sus Altezas de my viaje por tres o quatro vias.
Una bolvio amys manos y ansi çerrada con esta os le enbio yel suplimento del viaje en otra letra,
para que le deys a miçer Juan Luis con la otra del abiso, al qual scrivo que sereys el letor y en-
teprete della. Vuestra[s] cartas dese de veer y que fablem cabto del proposito en que quedamos.
Yo llege aca muy enfermo; en ese tienpo falecio la Reyna my Señora que Dios tiene, sin verle.
Fasta agora non os puedo dezir en que pareran mis fechos. Creo que Su Alteza lo habra bien
probeydo en su testamento, yel Rey my Señor muy bien responde. Franco Catanio os dira el
resto largo. Nuestro Señor os aya en su guardia. De Sebilla a xxvii de deziembre 1504.

El Almirante Mayor del Mar Oçeano Viso Rey
y Gobernador General delas Yndias etc.

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X M Y
Xpo FERENS.

Honourable Sir,—When I set out upon the voyage from
which I have just arrived, I spoke to you at length; I be-
lieve that of all this you have retained good remembrance.
I thought that upon my arrival I should find letters from
you, and possibly a person with a verbal message. At that
time, likewise, I left with Francesco di Ribarola a book of
transcripts of letters, and another of my privileges, in a bag
of coloured cordovan, with a silber lock, and two letters for
the Office of Saint George, to which I assigned the tenth of
my revenue, for the reduction of the dues on corn and other
provisions. Of nothing of all this have I heard any news.
Messer Francesco says that it all arrived there safely. If this
be the case, it was discourteous of those Gentlemen of Saint
George not to have given a reply, nor have they thereby in-
creased their treasury; and this is the cause why it is said
that whoever serves all, serves nobody. I left another
book of my privileges, like the abovesaid, at Cadiz with
Franco Catanio, the bearer of this, in order that he might
forward it to you in like manner, [and that] both the one and
the other should be placed in safe keeping, whereever it might
seem good to you. I received a letter from the King and
Queen, my Lords, at the very time of my departure; it is
copied therein; you will see that it came very opportunely;
nevertheless Don Diego was not put into possession ac-
cording to the promise that was made.

At the time when I was in the Indies, I wrote to their
Highnesses about my voyage by three or four ways; one
[letter] came again into my hands, and so I send it to you
enclosed with this, and the supplement of the voyage in
another letter, in order that you may give it to Messer Gian
Luigi with the other of advice; to whom I am writing that
you will be the reader and interpreter of it. I desire to see
letters from you, and that they should speak cautiously of the
design upon which we are engaged. I arrived here very ill;
at that time the Queen, my mistress, who is now with
God, died without my seeing her. Up to the present time
I cannot tell you how my affairs will end. I believe that
her Highness will have provided well for them in her will,
and the King, my master, is very well disposed. Franco
Catanio will tell you the rest at length. May our Lord have
you in his care. From Seville, the 27th of December, 1504.

The High Admiral of the Ocean, Viceroy and
Governor General of the Indies, etc.

·S·
·S· A ·S·
X M Y
Xpo FERENS.

1650. 10. gennaio

Quando il M.^o Lorenzo Oderico presentò a S.^{re} Collegi due
Libri, in ogni uno de quali si contene in carta pergamena Copia —
autentica delli privilegi concessi dal Re. Fernando e dalla Regina —
Isabella di Spagna Sua moglie a Christoffaro Colombo genovese
in premio de' suoi famosi operationi nella conquista del —
nuovo Mondo, ad effetto che Le S.^{re} Loro S.^{re} si compiacciano di far —
conservar d' Libri nel publico archivio, come degna memoria —
d'un' Natione così gloriosa, ricevendosi insieme per un' attestato
dell' affetto e zelo che d.^o M.^o Oderico professa al servizio publico
hanno i S.^{re} Collegi accettati d' Libri, e per dar segno del loro
gradimento hanno a parte ordinato che ne facci una publica
testimonianza a favore d.^o M.^o Oderico, con raccomandando
affettuosamente a S.^{re} Collegi, quanto all' uno, e l'altro consisti
in tutte le occasioni che al medesimo si rappresenteranno di —
aspirare ad alcun' officio, così di Lima, Germa, come di Corsica
ad effetto che si possa havere il dovuto riguardo del zelo e
affetto che ha dimostrato d.^o M.^o Oderico nella presentatione
d' essi Libri, e si possa anche convenientemente gratificarlo in de
congiuntura

Felice

1670. 10 January.

The Magnificent Lorenzo Oderico having presented to the Most Serene Colleges two Books, in each of which is contained an authenticated copy, on parchment, of the privileges granted by King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain his consort to Christopher Columbus, a Genoese, in recompense of his famous actions in the conquest of the New World, to the intent that their Most Serene Lordships may be pleased to cause the said Books to be preserved in the public archives, as a worthy memorial of so illustrious a compatriot, at the same time accepting them as a token of the affection and zeal which the said Magnificent Oderico entertains for the public service: The Most Serene Colleges have accepted the said Books, and in order to give a mark of their favour have by ballot ordered that a public testimonial be drawn up in favour of the same Magnificent Oderico, with an effectual recommendation of him both to the Most Serene Colleges and also to each of the two Councils on all the occasions which may occur to him for aspiring to any office, as well of the Mainland as of Corsica, to the intent that due regard may be had to the zeal and affection which the said Magnificent Oderico has displayed in the presentation of these Books, and that it may also be possible suitably to gratify him on the said occasions.

Felice.

Collegi accettati detti Libri, e per dar segno del loro gradimento hanno a palle ordinato se ne facci una publica testimonianza a favore dell'istesso Magnifico Oderico, con raccomandarlo efficacemente tanto a Serenissimi Collegi, quanto all' uno, e l'altro Consigli in tutte le occasioni che al medemo si rappresenteranno di aspirare ad alcun' officio, così di terra ferma, come di Corsica, ad effetto, che si possa havere il dovuto riguardo del zelo et affetto, che hà dimostrato detto Magnifico Oderico nella presentatione di essi Libri, e si possi anche convenientemente gratificarlo in dette congiunture.

1670. 10 Genaro.

Havendo il Magnifico Lorenzo Oderico presentato a Serenissimi Collegi due Libri, in ogn'uno de quali si contiene in carta pergamena copia autentica delli privilegi concessi dal Rè Fernando, e dalla Regina Isabella di Spagna sua moglie a Christoforo Colombo genovese in premio delle di lui famose operationi nella conquista del nuovo mondo, ad effetto che le Signorie Loro Serenissime si compiacciano di far conservar detti Libri nel publico archivio, como degna memoria d'un Nationale così glorioso, ricevendoli insieme per un attestato dell' affetto e zelo, che detto Magnifico Oderico professa al servizio publico: Hanno i Serenissimi

Felice.

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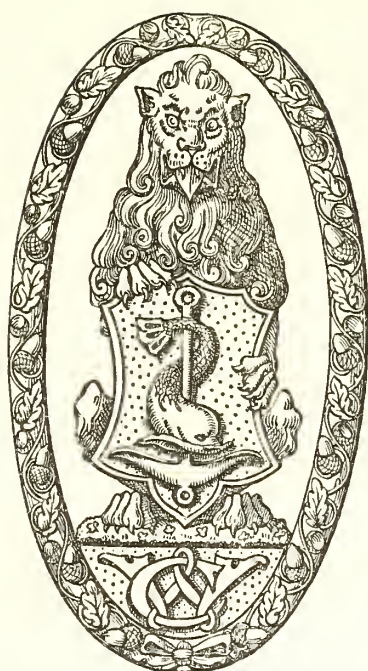
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